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THE



TIMES



30p

THURSDAY OCTOBER 20 1988

Critics attack Sinn Fein TV ban loopholes

Hurd plans tougher laws on terrorism

- Broadcasting of interviews with the representatives of 11 organizations, including Sinn Fein, has been banned
- Government officials immediately pointed to exemptions and grey areas which critics dubbed loopholes
- Broadcasters described the ban as a "damaging precedent", with the exclusion of newspapers being unjustified
- Opposition parties condemned the move, first of a series of measures planned after a lengthy security review

By Richard Ford, Richard Evans and Jamie Dettmer

The Government's ban on the broadcasting of interviews with representatives of Sinn Fein and 10 other Republican and Loyalist paramilitary organizations was heavily criticized and described as riddled with loopholes last night.

Within minutes of Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, announcing the ban, government officials pointed to exemptions that will operate during elections and "grey areas" involving more than 50 elected Sinn Fein councillors in Northern Ireland.

Although direct statements by representatives of the 11 organizations are prohibited from being broadcast on radio and television under a notice issued yesterday to the chairman of the BBC and Independent Broadcasting Authority, journalists will be able to report what they have said.

Broadcasters were united yesterday in their disapproval of the ban, but said they would abide by the Government's decision. Mr Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the BBC, and Mr Michael Checkland, the corporation's director-general, said it set a "damaging precedent". Mr David Nicholas, editor and chief executive of Independent Television News, said the distinction between broadcasters and newspapers was not justified.

The most scathing criticism came from the National Union of Journalists, which said British broadcasters were now operating under much the same conditions that applied in South Africa. Opposition MPs also condemned the move, saying it provided Sinn Fein and its military wing, the IRA, with a "propaganda coup".

However, Mr Hurd said the ban was not a restriction on reporting, but would deny supporters of terrorism the "easy platform" of radio and television.

Under the ban, Sinn Fein, the IRA, the National Liberation Army, Sinn Féin, the Loyalist Ulster Defence Association, Ulster Volunteer Force, Ulster Freedom Fighters and five other organizations will be prohibited.

Statements by any person supporting or inviting support for these organizations will also be banned, but the restrictions will not apply to the broadcast of parliamentary proceedings and will have only limited operation during elections.

Government officials admitted that it might be possible for Sinn Fein representatives to be interviewed in connection with purely political issues so long as they were not promoting party policy. They admitted that several difficult and grey areas had to be tested in the months ahead.

INSIDE

Falklands inquest overturned

A mother whose son was killed in the Falklands War yesterday won a six-year battle to prove he had been killed by the Royal Navy and not by enemy action.

A Southampton inquest recorded a verdict of accidental death on Lance Corporal Simon Cockton, aged 22, whose helicopter was shot down by a Navy missile. Mrs Winifred Cockton had taken her fight to the High Court to overturn a 1982 inquest verdict that he was killed by an enemy missile.

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164 die in two Indian crashes

Two air crashes yesterday claimed 164 lives in the worst day in India's domestic aviation history.

Five of the 135 people on an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 that crashed in Ahmadabad survived, but all 34 people on a Vayudoot Fokker Friendship died when it went down in Assam.

Page 11

Broker rapped

The City Takeover Panel has punished Smith New Court, London's largest independent market-maker, for a breach of the Takeover Code in dealings in the shares of its corporate client Ruberoid.

Page 25

Ireland win

The Republic of Ireland defeated Tunisia 4-0 in Dublin. Aldridge, of Liverpool, scored his first goal in 20 international appearances.

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Trapped whales growing weaker



Marine biologists monitoring the breathing of a blooded California grey whale at a hole in the ice near Barrow, Alaska.

Threat to icebreaker rescue bid

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Time was running out yesterday for three weary California grey whales trapped beneath ice off the northern coast of Alaska.

Rescue efforts were stalled by delays in towing the huge "hover-barge" icebreaker to the site, in which biologists and volunteers had worked frantically all night to keep two small breathing holes in the ice from freezing over.

Some people in the nearby town of Barrow believe that the whales, their barnacled snouts scraped down to the bone from banging into the jagged ice, should be shot to put them out of their misery and to provide food for the 3,100 mostly Eskimo villagers. One young whale was whining with pneumonia and trying to rest its battered head on the ice-shelf.

The 185-tonne icebreaker left Prudhoe Point, 200 miles away, on Tuesday, but quickly became stuck in the ice. It then had to be refuelled before being towed by a Sycamore helicopter belonging to the Alaska National Guard.

Power blackout threat over GCHQ dismissals

By Tim Jones, Roland Rudd and Philip Webster

The prospect of big disruptions to electricity supplies emerged last night after the electricians' union threatened industrial action in support of union members dismissed from the Government Communications Headquarters.

The decision, which took the union movement by surprise, means the Government faces a more serious challenge than the proposed 24-hour strike next month by 500,000 Civil Servants.

Other unions in the electricity supply industry, including the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Engineering Union, are likely to follow the electricians' action.

The Government made a final appeal to rebel staff during an angry Commons debate yesterday to accept the terms of service on offer.

Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU), which was expelled from the TUC last month, said: "This is about the right

to join a union of your choice. That is why we left the TUC. It is a matter of civil liberty and human rights, rather than industrial relations.

"The Government could have resolved this long ago with a strike-free agreement at GCHQ offered by the unions concerned. Instead, it has acted with spite and pettiness."

The unions are said to be anxious to avoid any hardship to the public or any withdrawal of safety cover. However, they could decide on moves which would disrupt electricity supplies to industry and government departments for the first time in a decade.

The Engineers' and Managers' Association, whose members represent senior grades in the industry, made clear that if a strike takes place, they will not carry out work normally done by other union members.

It is understood the Government decided to dismiss or transfer the last remaining 18 union members from GCHQ because it believed the electricians' union would not carry out a long-standing threat of industrial action after its expulsion from the TUC.

The EETPU executive decided to ballot its 43,000 members in the electricity industry and 9,600 in government establishments after a sample survey of 600 electricity supply members showed a majority were in favour of industrial action.

Parliament, page 13



British Gas under fire on pricing

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British Gas has been condemned as acting against the public interest in practising extensive discrimination in its pricing and supply contracts with industrial users.

The Government yesterday said it had accepted the recommendations of a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report into BG's pricing policies. BG, however, said it hoped to be able to reach agreements which would answer the criticisms.

In future it may have to publish a price schedule for firm and interruptible contracts for industrial users for the next five years.

Enforcement of the MMC proposals will be in the hands of Mr James McKinnon, director general of the Office of Gas Supply (Ofgas). He has argued that the terms of reference he inherited when BG was privatized were

Six Israeli soldiers die in blast

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Six Israeli soldiers were killed and 10 others seriously injured yesterday afternoon when a huge bomb, planted in a van apparently driven by a Hezbollah militia man on a suicide mission, ripped apart four Jeeps just as they were about to leave South Lebanon.

It was the largest number of Israeli Army casualties in one incident since the withdrawal from most of Lebanon in 1985.

Major-General Yossi Peled, the Israeli commander in the area, told a news conference later that the bomb was aboard a booby-trapped vehicle, which had not followed the Jeeps.

In South Lebanon, a spokesman for Islamic Resistance, the Hezbollah group, claimed one of its members was responsible for the mission.

Israeli storm, page 9

DTI inquiry into ConsGold shares

By Colin Campbell

The Department of Trade and Industry is to investigate possible insider dealing in the shares of Consolidated Gold Fields, the mining finance house, before Minorco's record-breaking £2.9 billion bid was formally declared on September 21, Lord Young said yesterday.

There will be two inquiries, one under the Companies Act and one under the Financial Services Act, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry added.

Both sides welcomed the announcement, but Mr Rudolph Agnew, the ConsGold chairman, has called for the bid to be halted because of the latest development. Sir Michael Edwards, for Minorco, said the DTI inquiries should not affect the bid or its outcome.

Details, page 25
Comment, page 27



Mr Michael Checkland: 'Damaging precedent'

Tax ruling threatens university sponsorship

By Sam Kiley, Universities Reporter

Companies making donations to universities and polytechnics will have to pay value-added tax on their gifts after a recent decision by Customs and Excise over the endowment of a chair at the Open University.

Customs has decided that the endowment of a professorship in financial management, by the Abbey National Building Society, secures "advertising or promotional benefit" for the donor who must therefore pay VAT.

Mr Bob Masterton, development director of the Open University, said: "The VAT-men must be rubbing their hands with glee that they have discovered this new way of raking in money."

He said the decision "is ridiculous because it comes at a time when the Government is encouraging universities to seek finance from non-governmental sources."

It is the responsibility of the donor, in this case the Open University, to collect the VAT, which, according to Mr Masterton, means the university must ask Abbey National for an extra sum to cover the tax, or pay £55,000 in VAT from the £500,000 it has already received. "It's going to make fund raising difficult," he said.

An estimated £30 million of income in the form of endowment was collected last year by universities in Britain. However, the pace has increased and, next week, Oxford University will announce plans to raise an extra £212 million over five years.

Dr Henry Drucker, director of the Campaign for Oxford who hopes to raise 80 per cent of the money from 20 per cent of the donors, yesterday refused to comment on the VAT decision before taking advice from tax lawyers. However, he said the Open University case was "charming".

If the Oxford campaign is successful, and raises about £200 million from companies wishing to name endowments after themselves, the university will have the task of collecting at least £30 million in VAT.

The development is bound to come as a blow to every university which has been pressed to seek industrial sponsorship and endowments since government cuts of up to 17 per cent.

Sir Mark Richmond, chairman of the committee of vice-chancellors and principals, said he would be urging the Treasury to overturn the ruling. "This is another hindrance to universities trying to seek outside funding. It does not square with the Government's commitment to encouraging outside funding."

Customs said there had been "no change in the law or policy and each case would be judged on its merits depending on whether or not we see the company deriving publicity from the donation".

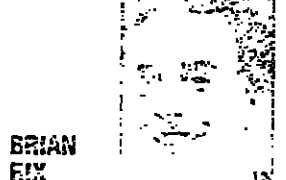
ON SATURDAY

The news that shook the world



TONY BENN

"I heard the news that he was dead, having meanwhile worried that he might have been fatally injured, yet still retain the power to control American nuclear weapons."



BRIAN FITT

"I heard in my dressing room at the Whitehall Theatre, ready to go on stage, it was a gloomy performance that we gave that evening. Somehow the audience had heard, and their reaction was muted to say the least."

Twenty-five years ago, gunshots rang out in Dallas that made the world hold its breath. President Kennedy was dead and many feared war could be around the corner.

In *The Times* on Saturday, leading figures recall vividly how they heard the news, and the impact it had upon them.

PLUS...
Clifford Leung asks: Is the Church winning the battle to change Thatcherism?

£266,000

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

Two winners shared yesterday's £4,000 daily prize (see page 3). Today's Accumulator stands at £266,000. Prices: page 29

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Legal move over filmed arrest

Two men whose arrests were seen by millions of television viewers are planning to sue the chief constable of North Wales police, Mr David Owen, for alleged assault by his officers.

Their solicitor last night confirmed that action was possible after being told that the Director of Public Prosecutions is dropping charges against one of the men, Mr Brian Owen, aged 21, of Newborough, Anglesey, who was accused of attacking police officers.

Mr Owen was a passenger in a car which was chased by police through the village of Brynascienn in Anglesey. An off-duty television cameraman filmed the arrest.

Mr Michael Williams, aged 20, the car driver, also of Newborough, still faces charges of driving while disqualified, reckless driving and having no insurance or test certificate. Two police officers have been suspended and a report has gone to the Police Complaints Authority.

Defendants' silence

Three alleged Irish terrorists accused of conspiring to kill Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, declined to give evidence at Winchester Crown Court yesterday. John McCann, aged 24, of Sandymount, Dublin, Martina Shanahan, aged 22, of Rathfarnham, Dublin, and Finbar Cullen, aged 27, of Maynooth, Co Kildare, deny conspiring to murder Mr King and other people. Mr Geoffrey Robertson, QC, for Miss Shanahan, said the evidence fell "a million miles short" of proving the defendants had murdered in their minds. The case continues today.

Photographers cleared

Four freelance photographers who failed to hand over to the police unpublished film of a large demonstration at the News International plant at Wapping in January 1987 were yesterday cleared of contempt of court. An application for the commitment to prison of Mr Andrew Moore, one of the four, failed in the High Court at Preston when Mr Justice Allott ruled that the material, which was handed to the International Federation of Journalists in Brussels, went out of the jurisdiction of the British courts before November 1987.

Opera house victory

The Royal Opera House won its legal battle to remodel nearly two acres of Covent Garden yesterday when the Court of Appeal ruled in its favour. The decision is likely to end a 10-year fight by the 500-strong Covent Garden Community Association to block the £100 million development, involving the demolition of 14 buildings, which it claims would "devastate" the area. The association was refused leave to appeal to the Lords but hopes to petition them for a reversal of that decision.

Hospital criticized

An inquiry into the deaths of 18 patients, including 13 suicides, at a psychiatric hospital, has strongly criticized doctors and management involved. A report by Trent Regional Health Authority, published yesterday, accuses psychiatrists at the St John's Hospital, Bracebridge Heath, near Lincoln, of serious errors of clinical judgement. It says management at the hospital was also at fault when patients were being moved out of wards into the community in preparation for the hospital's closure.

Harvest down again

The Ministry of Agriculture has reduced its estimate of this year's harvest to 21 million tonnes, more than 500,000 tonnes below last year's output, which was itself some 3,000,000 tonnes down on 1986.

£1m offer to Piper Alpha families

By Kerry Gill

Offers of compensation, ranging from £600,000 to £1.2 million, were about to be made last night to the families of those killed in the Piper Alpha disaster.

Mr John Brading, chief executive of Occidental UK, the operator of the North Sea platform, said the company was making fair and generous offers which he hoped the families would accept and avoid litigation in the United States.

Occidental has refused to discuss the level of compensation publicly, but it is known that the average is slightly below £1 million.

The compensation has been placed at the mid-Atlantic level which is a compromise between the relatively small amounts that would be awarded in a Scottish court and the very much greater sums that can be achieved in the United States.

However, Mr David Burnside, the solicitor leading the group representing most families, last night said he was upset at Occidental's announcement. Although the company said the offers had been given to lawyers, Mr Burnside said they did not expect to receive them until tomorrow at the earliest.

"Our clients, when they read this, will be wondering why we have not been in touch with them", he said. Mr Burnside was also disappointed that the compensation level had been leaked.

"We had wanted to keep them confidential until the families had a chance to see them. It is a personal and private matter", he said.

The offers will now be put to the families who will be asked to accept them or take the

chance of fighting for more — either by persuading Occidental to increase its offers or through the American legal system.

Last night, Mr Roger Lyons, assistant general secretary of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance union (MSF), said he believed the union's lawyers could get clients a better deal.

"Clearly the offers may be attractive to some people, but our lawyers may push them further", Mr Lyons said.

Mr Brading said yesterday: "Shortly after the disaster we promised to do everything possible to take care of the bereaved families and survivors. This is still our intention."

Mr Brading said if litigation was pursued in the American courts it would be a lengthy process which could cause prolonged distress for the families and would incur huge legal expenses.

The Piper Alpha rig exploded on July 6 killing 167 men. The majority of the 112 still missing are believed to be in the main accommodation module expected to arrive at the Flotta terminal in Orkney at the weekend after being recovered from the North Sea last week.

It emerged yesterday that two survivors of the catastrophe had volunteered to help to clear out the module when it arrives. They will not, however, be involved in recovering any of the bodies, an Occidental spokesman said.

The Rev Andrew Wylie, chaplain to the oil industry, said that going back for some men might be part of the healing process and part of their own personal renewal.

Large funeral crowd raises feud fears



Mr Jim Craig (left) helps to carry his son's coffin yesterday, aided by Mr Artie Fee

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Concern is growing in Belfast that a fully-fledged "loyalist" feud is looming after a large turn-out at the funeral of Mr Jim Craig, the senior Ulster Defence Association figure killed last Saturday by members of his own organization.

Several hundred mourners attended the funeral in a clear challenge to the

UDA's seven-man inner council which had ordered a boycott.

Craig, who was shot by gunmen from the Ulster Freedom Fighters, a cover name for the UDA, was one of the most high profile and brutal gangsters in Belfast's paramilitary world and was one of the main racketeers in the city. He had been a prominent paramilitary figure for nearly 20 years and was jailed for armed robbery in the 1970s.

The UFF said he was shot because he had passed on information to the IRA which led to the assassination last December of John McMichael, the then UDA deputy leader. Mr McMichael had been investigating racketeers in the UDA.

Among those who carried the coffin was Mr Artie Fee, who was acquitted in 1985 along with Mr Craig of extortion charges.

Belfast shipyard's future is in doubt

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

The long-term future of the state-owned Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast looked grim yesterday after the collapse of privatization talks between the Government and Mr Ravi Tikoo, the Indian industrialist.

Unions in Northern Ireland accused the Government of not doing enough to secure Mr

Tikoo's bid, which involved proposals to build the world's biggest cruise liner, to be called the Ultimate Dream.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who announced the collapse of talks, said the Government would be doing "all it can to achieve the best possible future for the yard".

Mr Tikoo is understood to have demanded a bigger sub-

sidy, believed to be between £70 million and £80 million, than the Northern Ireland Office was prepared to make.

Officials indicated after talks last summer that the Tikoo bid was the best chance for the future of the Belfast yard, which employs 4,000 and recorded a loss of nearly £18 million last year.

A Northern Ireland Office source said: "Apart from sub-

sides, the Government was already committed in the deal to write off Harland and Wolff's losses this year and to lose the opportunity of recovering the £150 million paid to cover other losses since 1966".

● Campaigners fighting to keep open North-east Ship Builders Ltd said that closure of the Wearside yards would cost almost £1 billion and would put 2,200 out of work.

School heads seek 15.4% pay rise

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

School heads and their deputies in England and Wales yesterday lodged a claim for average pay rises of 15.4 per cent from April next year.

The National Association of Head Teachers said heads should be given special treat-

ment over ordinary teachers, in a submission to the Government's Interim Advisory Committee, which will recommend the teachers' pay rise for next year.

The association called for the salary of head teachers to

be raised by 16.4 per cent and that of deputies by 14.5 per cent.

The other teachers' unions have said that bigger rises for heads will mean smaller rises, well below the rate of inflation, for classroom teachers.

New life for Princess's favourite

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The sporting estate car which for years counted the Princess Royal among its modest number of owners has been revived after a businessman spent £1.2 million to start building the car again.

Three years ago Reliant, the

Tamworth manufacturer, stopped making the Scimitar GTE when orders dwindled. Yesterday the distinctive fibreglass-body car was relaunched at the Motor Show.

The car has gone back into production in a small Notting-

ham factory after Mr Kohji Nakazuchi bought the rights to the GTE for £400,000 and spent a further £600,000 developing the car.

Mr Nakazuchi believes it could be five years before the Scimitar makes a profit.

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BRITISH MIDLAND

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Falklands soldiers killed accidentally by Navy, jury says

By David Sapped

A young British soldier and three comrades who died in the Falklands conflict were killed accidentally by the Royal Navy and not, as a first inquest had been told, by enemy action, a coroner's jury in Southampton decided yesterday.

The admission of a series of blunders that led to an Army Gazelle helicopter being shot down by a missile from HMS Cardiff was the end of "years of lies and deception by the Ministry of Defence", according to the soldier's mother.

Mrs Winifred Cockton, of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, fought the inquest for four years to establish the truth behind the death of her son, Lance Corporal Simon Cockton, aged 22.

He and three colleagues from 656 Squadron of the Army Air Corps died on June 6, 1982, when their helicopter crashed on Mount Pleasant. Initially it was claimed that it had gone down in bad weather and, at the first inquest, as a result of enemy action.

However, colleagues of her son later told Mrs Cockton that the helicopter had, in fact, been shot down by a Sea Dart missile from HMS Cardiff and she began a campaign which, in 1987, led to the Ministry of Defence admitting the Gazelle had been hit by "friendly" fire and, in February this year, the High Court quashing the original inquest verdict.

"My purpose in having this inquest reopened was to eradicate the lies and deception that surround my son's death,"

Mrs Cockton said she was not seeking compensation and would not try to retrieve an

estimated \$6,000 in legal costs, although she felt that "tremendous mistakes had been made". "I accept that under the stress of war conditions, mistakes can happen. But I cannot forgive the Ministry of Defence for their deliberate deception and lies. They simply did not have the guts to admit the truth", she said.

"For the last four years I have lived with six words which I knew to be lies. They are 'the helicopter crashed in bad weather'. That is simply untrue. The weather was clear and there was a full moon when HMS Cardiff shot down my son's helicopter."

During yesterday's inquest, a metallurgist who had investigated the crash for the first time said he had been "severely hampered" by inadequate samples of the missile supplied by the Army.

Mr Anthony Jones said he had been reluctant to write the initial report but, after pressure, he concluded the fragment supplied by the Army was similar to that of a Sidewinder air-to-air missile presumably fired by the Argentine air force.

In fact, Lieutenant Colonel Colin Siburn, commanding officer of 656 Squadron at the time, said that an internal inquiry after the war had established the helicopter had been shot down at the same time as two missiles were fired at a suspected enemy aircraft by HMS Cardiff.

He said all helicopters were fitted with IFF (Identification Friend or Foe) equipment but he told the inquest that it had been switched off on the Gazelle that night

because its frequency was interfering with other weapons systems.

An Army officer had visited Lance Corporal Cockton's widow - they had married on the day he set out for the Falklands - and told her the helicopter had crashed in bad weather. In fact, it crashed on a clear, moonlit night, Colonel Siburn said.

"The only possibility I considered at the time was that the pilot in the dark had flown into the ground or had been brought down by enemy fire", he said.

The first he heard that the helicopter might have been hit by a British missile was in a ship's newsletter which used the Navy term "a blue on blue". Colonel Siburn said he thought it was "an unsubstantiated rumour, which I did not want to get loose".

Mrs Cockton said she bore no ill-feelings towards the officers involved in the shooting down. "It is the bureaucrats of the Ministry of Defence who should have been made to answer. They deliberately covered up the truth."

A spokesman for the ministry said last night that although there were suggestions early on that HMS Cardiff may have shot down the helicopter "we totally refute any suggestion of a cover-up".

"Our initial investigation led us to believe the helicopter had been brought down by enemy action. We did not wish to add to the grief of relatives by telling them that the Cardiff may have been involved as it was only a possibility that was far from established", he said.

Crash survivors to fly back to Uganda



Mr Geoffrey Gait, his wife Ruth, and their son Richard, at home in Bath yesterday after surviving the Rome air crash.

As another victim of Monday's Ugandan Airlines crash died in Rome yesterday, bringing the death toll to 32, a British missionary family who survived the disaster promised to continue their work.

Mr Geoffrey Gait, aged 31, and his wife Ruth, aged 26, were almost killed when their eight-month-old son Richard was in the plane. They were hoping to help establish a farm-aid project.

Mr Gait, recovering in Bath yesterday from second-degree burns, said: "We would like to tell the people of Uganda that we will see them again soon. Ruth's burns are a lot worse than we first thought. They will take several weeks to

heal, but we expect to go back afterwards."

He said it was a miracle that the family had survived the air crash. "God protected us. He kept us safe and this has certainly strengthened our faith in him."

Mrs Gait said: "We thought we were going to die. It was getting very hot, but we were not afraid. I had prepared myself to die. I can't believe we actually walked away from the plane."

However, the couple said they would not forget their last moments in the plane, when they clambered free of the wreckage as others perished.

Their son had been playing with a Ugandan baby during the flight, he said.

When the Boeing 707 crashed, the Ugandan child died because his mother could not unstrap him quickly enough.

"It was very distressing for us. Richard and the other baby had been goo-gooing at each other and playing happily but he was left strapped in. It was horrible."

The Gait family were treated in hospital for burns, where, a family friend said, they offered comfort to other survivors.

"They were rushing around making sure other people were all right", the Rev David Saunders, who flew to Rome to visit them, said. "It is typical of them that they were more concerned for the welfare of others than themselves."

Fog landing failures, page 7

THE TIMES PRESSPASS

Armchair experts on the issues

The best feature of a reduced price offer for a quality newspaper is that it will give those on course for a third-class degree the opportunity to read in the comfort of their own armchairs, according to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the former minister for education and Lord Chancellor.

"For they that have leisure shall become wise", he said yesterday.

Lord Hailsham said: "I was always ambitious and frugal so read *The Times* in the junior common room at Christ Church, Oxford. But it is those folk who spend less time studying who are the pillars of university society."

Lord Hailsham, who started reading the newspaper at his father's home, said university and post-graduate students worked harder than when he was an undergraduate in the 1930s.

He said students should still make time to read a quality newspaper. "The Presspass half-price offer is a good idea because it will encourage undergraduates to think about serious issues seriously."

Coupon, page 28

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

A half share in yesterday's daily Portfolio prize of £4,000 was won by Mrs Helen Lewis, aged 51, from Norwich. A Times reader for nearly 30 years, Mrs Lewis plans to invest the money in stocks and shares. The other winner was Mr Patrick Arbuthnot, from Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

Women 'reject hotel frills'

By Shona Crawford Poole, Travel Editor

Hotel services designed to appeal to female travellers are failing to win top British businesswomen, according to a survey conducted for the world's third-largest hotel group, Ramada International.

It finds that feminine room decoration and hotel floors reserved for women are not what female executives want.

Fruit, flowers and fluffy bathrobes are welcomed, but prompt and friendly service, and recognition are more important than pink wallpaper, it says.

Hotel bars and bar staff drew the strongest criticism and shortcomings in that area provided the report's title, *On Your Own, Love?*

"Senior executives who think nothing of running their own companies and dominating the boardroom" are remarkably lacking in confidence when faced with complaining to staff in the

more social atmosphere of a hotel, preferring to put up with bad service rather than make a fuss, the report says.

"It seems women are still unable to be assertive without fear of appearing unattractively strident. This is acknowledged by the women themselves."

The report adds that the lack of communication leaves hotel staff confused.

Ramada concludes that "efficiency and discrimination in hotels has often been the lot of travelling businesswomen."

"Indeed, research indicates that up to 60 per cent of female executives spend most of their free time in their hotel rooms rather than face discourteous treatment in hotels' public areas."

Acting on its own research Ramada's latest training programme aims to overcome the difficulties and embarrass-

ments faced by women checking into hotels late at night, dining alone, or being host to a business luncheon or dinner with male associates.

To that end, the company has produced four personality stereotypes.

There is Boardroom Barbara, assertive, dominant, independent and generally over 30, who loathes the idea of segregated women's programmes in hotels.

Less aggressive is Self-contained Sarah who likes her own company and will seldom go out of the hotel to dine. Most prone to male harassment is Lively Laura, who is usually under 30 and requires the help and support of hotel staff.

There is also Unassuming Ursula, whose work is likely to be in a supporting role, allowing her to make decisions about travel and hotels on behalf of other women.

Murder trial told of rail sighting

A British Rail official told a murder trial yesterday how he glimpsed from the window of a train a boy and a girl lying on a railway embankment.

Mr Barry Hill, a senior training instructor, said: "I thought it was a courting couple but as they got closer I realized it was a young lad and a small girl. She was on her back with her knees drawn up."

The prosecution at Chelmsford Crown Court alleges that within minutes of Mr Hill's train passing, the girl, Sharon Joseph, aged two, was murdered by a boy aged 12.

The boy, now aged 13, is believed to be the youngest male ever to face a murder charge in a British court.

He denies abducting the girl from a playground, murdering her and sexually assaulting her beside the railway line at Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, on February 22. Mr Hill said

he noticed the two children on the embankment as he was travelling home from work.

He saw them for about 10 seconds and noticed the girl was wearing white stockings. He said the boy who had smartly-cut hair was lying alongside the little girl but not touching her.

Miss Rosemary Clare, a social worker, broke down as she told the court how she cuddled the boy as he directed the police to the girl's body.

"He kept shouting 'over there, over there' and pointing. While he was giving directions he seemed quite calm, totally objective as though he were giving directions on how to get anywhere", Miss Clare said.

"But in a very short time he started shaking. We were all cold but he was not shaking because of the cold. I just ended up cuddling him."

The trial continues today.

Bodyguard cleared of assault

A bodyguard was cleared yesterday of assaulting a company director while protecting the racing millionaire, Mr Terry Ramsden, from a death threat.

A jury at Gloucester Crown Court acquitted Mr Wayne Jackson, of Hullbridge Road, South Woodham Ferris, Essex, of assaulting Mr Graham Pasquill, on Gold Cup Day at Cheltenham races last year.

The court was told that Mr Ramsden, the bodyguard and two armed police officers were on board a mini-bus taking them to a helicopter on the racecourse when Mr Pasquill got in wanting to go to the helipad. The police ordered him off but he refused and Mr Jackson threw him out.

Mr Jackson had denied assaulting Mr Pasquill, of Paddock Wood, Kent, causing actual bodily harm.

Church of England move 'a fiasco'

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

A special inquiry has found that plans to move the Church of England's headquarters from Church House, Westminster, were based on "middle, misunderstanding and mistake", the General Synod is to be told next month.

The synod is to be advised to abandon the move, even though building work, costing £9 million, for new offices has begun. The intention was to share accommodation with the Church Commissioners at 1 Millbank, Westminster, while putting Church House on the market and renting Kensington Town Hall council chamber for synod meetings.

The inquiry was requested by the synod in July.

The report of the inquiry discloses a history of poor decision-making, unsound suppositions accepted as fact,

and a desire on the part of some unidentified churchmen for the church to have a splendid "flagship" headquarters with all its main administrative bodies in one place.

It concludes that "there is no one party to whom blame can be attached", but the standing committee of the General Synod has indicated it is prepared to make a formal apology to the synod at its next meeting.

In private, however, synod officials are describing it as a "fiasco".

If the move is stopped, the conversions under way at 1 Millbank could still be adapted so that the offices could be let commercially, though plans for a chapel there would be dropped. Church House would be kept

in use. The most serious false premise behind the original proposal to move was that the Government, which rents office space and the public meeting halls at Church House, no longer required them.

It was assumed, because the meeting rooms were rarely seen to be in use, that they would be had in use once the church became responsible for them again.

The report says no one appreciated that the Government wanted the meeting halls to have a reservoir of spare accommodation, for instance for big public inquiries.

The Government has given no indication that it wanted to leave Church House but it was never asked. It is now claiming compensation for being forced to leave.



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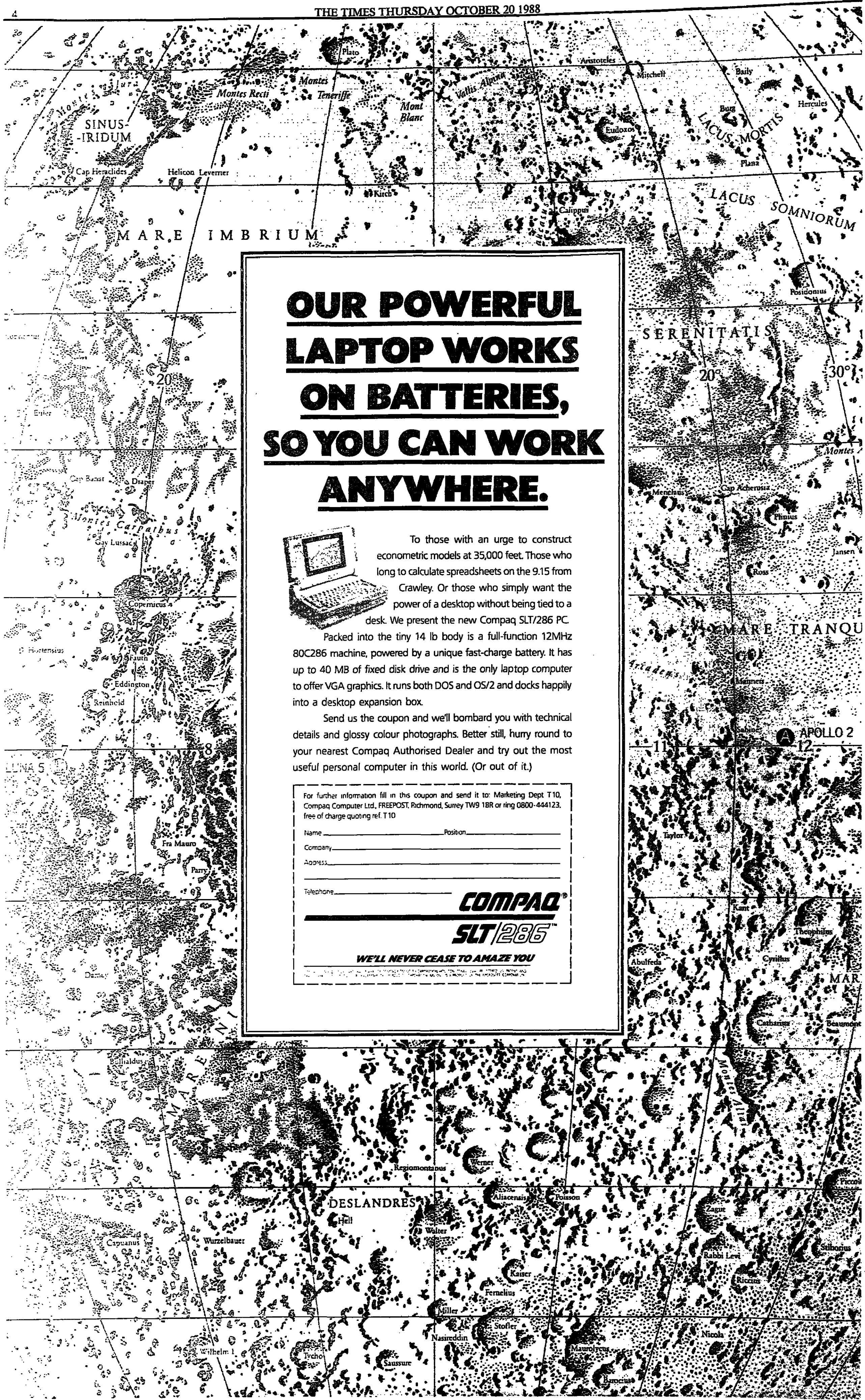
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Labour faces fresh Militant threat on Liverpool council

By Ian Smith and Martin Fletcher

The re-infiltration of Liverpool City Council by Militant members and supporters may force the Labour Party national executive to order another purge there, it was disclosed yesterday.

It also emerged that Mr Michael Reddington, the council's chief executive since 1986, may be on the verge of leaving because he believes the full-time Labour councillors who chair committees are going far beyond their policy-making function and are interfering with its implementation.

Mr Reddington presented a report to the council's financial strategy committee earlier this week seeking an assurance from the ruling Labour group that he is in charge of implementing policy, and that his heads of departments are answerable to him, not to committee chairmen.

Mr Reddington, aged 56, the council's treasurer during its confrontation with the Government, will leave if such a declaration is not forthcoming and is understood to have already dis-

missed early retirement.

Local party organizers believe there are at least six Militants now on the council, backed by a dozen committed supporters. Reports on the sudden upsurge in Militant activity at both council and constituency party level have been sent to the party's national executive committee.

Meanwhile, Mr David Alton, of the Democrats, said talks were taking place with Labour moderates about a possible merger of Labour and Democratic council members to end the Militant incursion. "Though most people believed they had finally been killed off they are increasing their stranglehold on council affairs. The only way to beat them is with a united force", he said.

The developments follow the resignation of Mr Gideon Ben-Tovim as deputy chairman of the council education committee.

His decision comes after what he described as "a callous killing off" by Militants of a working party he has headed for 15 months to

streamline primary education in Liverpool.

Mr Ben-Tovim, who won an election last year on an anti-Militant ticket, said he had no alternative but to resign because of unacceptable and unprincipled tactics used by Militant.

The re-emergence of the Militant threat comes two years after the expulsion of the former council leader, Mr Derek Hatton, and 10 other members from the Liverpool Labour party.

Mr Peter Kilfoyle, one of Mr Neil Kinnock's principal advisers and assistant party organizer for Merseyside, said he had regularly reported to the national executive about Militant numbers within the Labour group and constituency units.

He said, that even after the expulsions, which are estimated to have cost the Labour Party more than £200,000, there was still a large Militant presence within the council and it was now up to the national executive to decide what disciplinary action should be taken.

Last appearance of an angel of the skies

By Ronald Faux

An old and familiar shape made its last scheduled appearance at Heathrow Airport, London, yesterday.

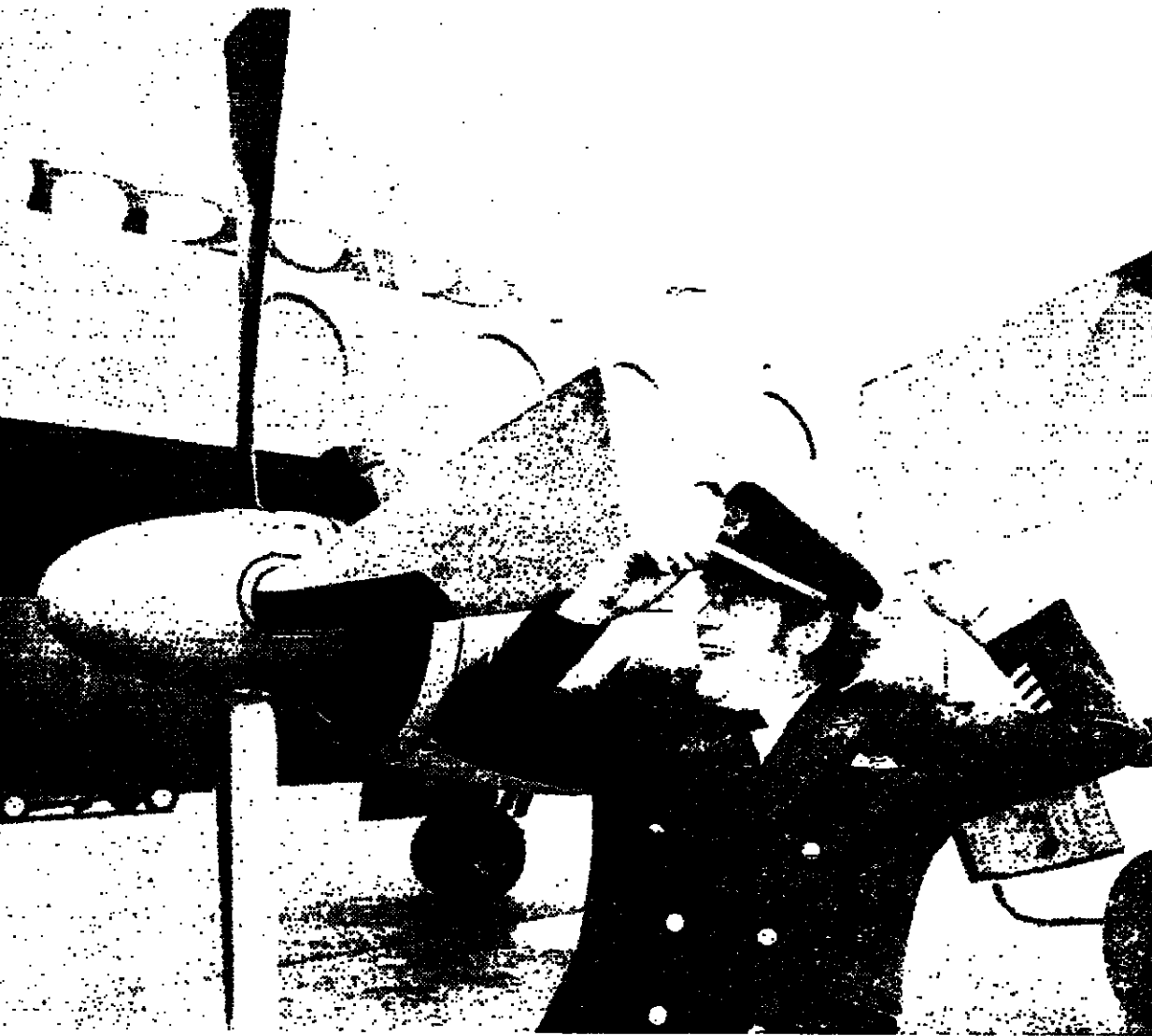
The Viscount aircraft of Manx Airways, Wings of Man, is the last of its kind to operate a scheduled service at Heathrow. "A great aeroplane, built like a tank and flies like an angel", Captain Philip Scott said after a flight from the island.

The Wings of Man, at 28 years old, is a youngster among Viscounts. The first to carry fare-paying passengers flew from London to Paris in 1950. The airline is disposing of the Wings of Man because it does not fit its development plans and is expensive to maintain.

Mr Mike Bell, general manager of Terminal 1, greeted the Manx aircraft on its last flight. He could remember when lines of Viscounts stood outside his terminal. "A real work-horse, a marvellous aeroplane", he said.

It was the windows of the Viscount that most commended it to passengers, large openings which gave a majestic view of the ground below. Several passengers joined the flight yesterday just for the return ride, and champagne was provided.

London air traffic controllers gave Wings of Man a special farewell. As the aircraft prepared for take-off a voice in the flight deck earphones said: "Sad, isn't it. End of an era. Bye bye".



Captain Philip Scott salutes the Wings of Man after its last scheduled flight to Heathrow (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Code blamed for untrained clerks

By David Sapsford

The Lord Chancellor's department yesterday criticized the Law Society's "unfettered" code of conduct for encouraging the use of untrained clerks to assist barristers in Crown Court cases.

Amid increasing criticism of the use of stand-in clerks—some of whom are hired from dole queues to represent solicitors in court—the Government's law department rejected the society's claim that such practices were due to the poor rates of pay for Legal Aid work.

Instead, the department laid the blame on the society, saying the existing code of conduct required that all barristers be accompanied at Crown Court by a solicitor's representative.

"In many cases this is simply not necessary," a spokesman said. The Lord Chancellor, the department added, had been attempting

for some time to get the society to agree to changes in the code, but without success.

If, for example, a barrister did not need to be accompanied by a solicitor's representative when appealing against a sentence, it would free properly qualified clerks to attend cases where they were needed and reduce the reliance on untrained help.

However, the Law Society said last night that the Lord Chancellor's proposals represented "a straightforward attempt to save money without any thought being given to the needs of the client".

"Our concern is not about money but about clients for whom a court case can be a very great crisis."

"Are they to be told to turn up at court without any back-up from their solicitors to see a barrister they have never met?" a society spokesman asked.

Revived interest gives hope to Carlisle line

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The prospects of saving the Settle-Carlisle railway line by a sale to private interests appeared to improve yesterday when British Rail issued revised estimates showing that with the present level of passengers the operating loss could be as low as £300,000.

British Rail has sought the permission of Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, to close the line if a buyer cannot be found. He has said he was inclined to accept that request.

British Rail made the request on the basis that the line was likely to incur an operating loss of about £1 million a year. The cost of restoring the Ribbleshead viaduct and other structures would be between £2.7 million and £4.3 million.

Since the threat of closure became apparent in May the number of people using the line has increased and British Rail says that if this level were

sustained, revenue in the present financial year could be £700,000 higher than forecast. Measures to enable the line to operate more economically would mean it would continue to lose between £300,000 and £1 million a year.

Mr Sidney Newey, director of British Rail's provincial sector, said yesterday British Rail was doubtful that the same number of passengers would be attracted if the threat of closure were removed. BR was continuing to seek to have the line closed, he added.

The potentially lower operating losses and the fact that the cost of work on the Ribbleshead viaduct is now thought to be closer to £2.7 million than £4.3 million appear likely to encourage organizations seeking to buy the line.

Last month about 40 groups attended a meeting organized by Lazard Brothers for those interested in buying the line.

Mandalay ruby fails to achieve \$15m reserve

The Mandalay ruby, proclaimed by Sotheby's as one of the world's most rare and precious jewels, failed to sell in New York on Tuesday night after a record price had been predicted.

The biggest faceted, transparent Burma ruby known had been offered mounted in a brooch. However, bidders refused to go beyond \$7.7 million (£4.21 million) after it was estimated at \$15 million (£8.20 million).

The result appeared to confirm an emerging trend where by quality does not necessarily guarantee a sale.

Another ruby, weighing 15.97 carats and set in a ring, fared better, achieving \$3.6 million dollars (£1.9 million), a record for a ruby and for any coloured stone. The "Star of Sierra Leone No 2", an emerald-cut, D-flawless diamond of 32.52 carats also sold anonymously for \$3.5 million (£1.82 million). Both were close to their estimates.

Sotheby's lifted twentieth century ceramics into a different league in London yesterday at their first auction devoted exclusively to this category of fine art. Not

surprisingly, a 1966 Picasso profile of Jacqueline, his wife, fetched £68,200, a world record for a pictorial ceramic.


However, some important pieces did not do well. A Picasso vase, consigned by Sir Richard Attenborough and estimated at up to £40,000, went unsold at £32,000. Two lots by Fernand Leger, a version of a mosaic executed for an American war memorial and his only porcelain dinner service, suffered the same fate. The sale, attended mainly by private buyers, totalled £733,810 with 17 per cent unsold.

A set of four wine coolers by the English silversmith, Paul Storr, consigned by the Marquess of Bath from Longleat, fetched top price at Christie's silver sale in London, selling within estimate for £110,000.

A sale of the furniture and effects of Cecil B DeMille, the film mogul, achieved £403,000 at Christie's New York, with nearly all lots sold.

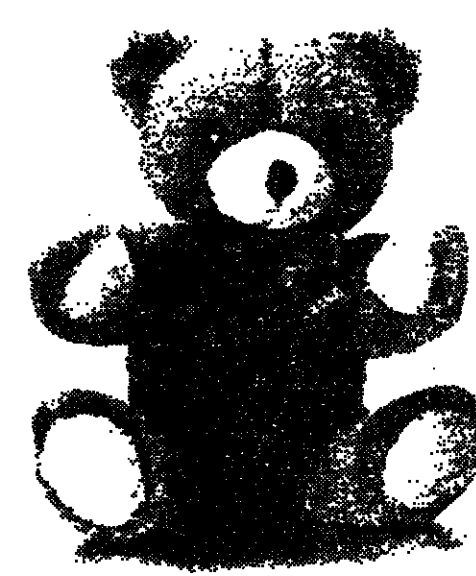
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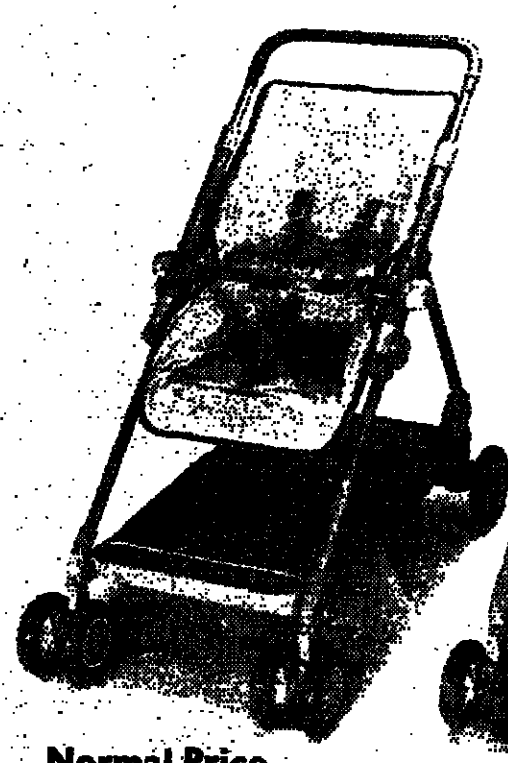
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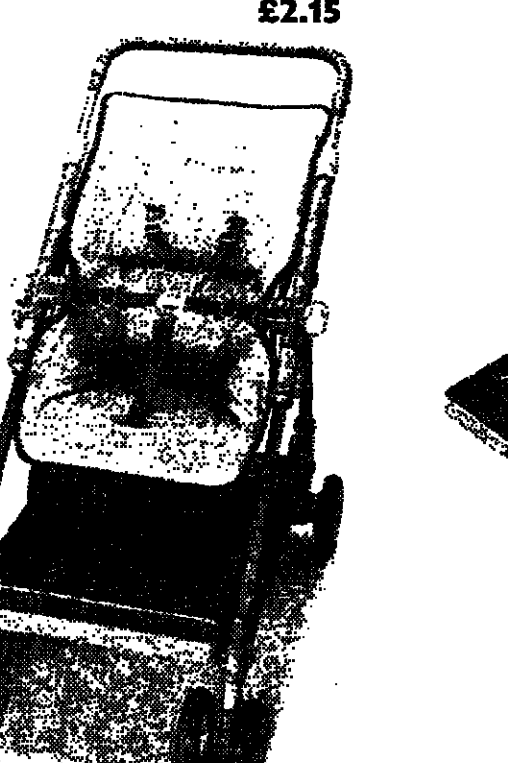
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Manchester rapist hunt

Police ask expert in psychology to help them trace attacker

By Ian Smith

Police have asked a professor of psychology to help them to track down a multiple rapist dubbed the Fox.

The man, an Afro-Caribbean in his early twenties, has raped six women and indecently assaulted three others in the past 18 months. All but one of his victims were students, and all lived in a warren of houses, flats and bed-sitters in south Manchester.

Police believe the Fox studies his victims' routine movements before attacking them in their homes. The first woman knows of the intruder's presence is when a knife is held at her throat and a hand is clamped over her mouth.

Students from Manchester University and colleges near by have been singled out for abuse. More than a third of the 30,000 students in the area — the country's largest concentration — are women.

Det Supt Arnold Beales, who is heading the investigation, has enlisted the help of Professor David Canter, of Sussex University, to evaluate every detail of the attacks and compile a profile of the wanted man's lifestyle and environment.

Professor Canter's expertise has already proved invaluable to police, who enlisted his help during their hunt for the London railway rapist.

While the search for the Fox continues, night security has been increased in all of Manchester University's stu-

dent accommodation blocks, while those sharing houses or flats now congregate on the upper floors rather than risk being held at knifepoint in their ground floor bedrooms.

Boy friends and fellow male students have become bodyguards, moving into the homes of frightened female students. Special student buses similar to those that operated in Leeds during the height of the Yorkshire Ripper investigation are used nightly by lone women who want to travel home safely. Once dropped at their destination, they are watched by the coach driver until safely indoors.

Yesterday detectives met a group of 150 students at Manchester University to offer advice on locks, alarms and window safety catches. City retailers are offering discounts on safety products to all undergraduates producing a National Union of Students card.

Students' union representatives have also distributed nearly 5,000 rape alarms, purchased three years ago with a university grant. When police admitted publicly six days ago that they were seeking a multiple rapist, 700 alarms were requested within 48 hours. Next week, the union will buy 3,000 new alarms that sound a warning when disturbed beneath door or window frames.

The effectiveness of the rape alarms, issued free by the

union, was proved last Saturday when an undergraduate aged 22 awoke to find a man in her room in the Oak House students' centre. She triggered the alarm and he fled.

Students are angered both by the multiple rapist's threat to their security, constricting their lifestyles, and by the slowness of police to admit his presence in Manchester.

Police say, however, that it was not until July that they were convinced by scientific tests that one individual was responsible for all nine attacks.

Unconvinced by the police explanation, students may now extend their planned march of unity through the streets of Manchester next Tuesday to Longsight police station, where they may vent their anger with chants and placards.

Miss Jane Taylor, who graduated in English from the university four months ago and now edits the student newspaper, *The Manchurian*, said it would be foolhardy to pretend that all female students were not deeply worried by the series of events during the past 18 months.

"They are doing everything they can to ensure their safety, but if at the end of the day someone, somehow, manages to get into your bedroom and holds a knife to your throat, there is not a lot you can do about it if you do not wish to die," she said.

Baker scans winning lines



Isobel Hall autographs a copy of her poems, *Crimped Calico*, for Mr Baker yesterday.

A school pupil who began writing poetry last Christmas as part of her GCSE course was named yesterday as Young Poet of the Year (Douglas Broom, Education Reporter, writes).

A slim volume of verse by Isobel Hall, aged 15, called *Crimped Calico*, won the £150 first prize in the competition organized by the Schools Poetry Association.

Isobel, of Church Plantation, Keele University, Newcastle-under-Lyme, said: "I was thrilled to win the competition and amazed that my poetry appealed to others as well as me".

The judges, D.J. Enright and Jonathan Barker, the poets, said of her work: "What we

admired was her intimate observation, the sharply economically drawn pictures".

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, who compiled the *Faber Book of English Poetry in Verse*, said he was impressed by the quality of poetry of the 11 finalists, including Lucy Howard, aged nine, of New Malden, Surrey, who was honored at the Poetry Society's London headquarters.

"To read English poetry from its early beginnings to the present day is to experience the unfolding of one of the greatest glories of Western civilization and one of our nation's greatest assets", Mr Baker said.

Gill urges TUC to encourage union mergers

By Roland Ridd, Employment Affairs Reporter

The new sole general secretary of Britain's fifth largest union is to urge the TUC to encourage its affiliates to merge.

Mr Ken Gill, now leader of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union after the retirement of the joint general secretary, Mr Clive Jenkins, yesterday said unions had to adapt to the new hostile climate by combining forces.

In his first big interview since Mr Jenkins' retirement, Mr Gill told *The Times* that the TUC had to recognize the changing nature of trade unionism.

"The TUC should persuade and help unions to amalgamate. Congress House is right to say that unions should not sell the right to strike. But the demands on unions to provide services and back-up is beyond the capacity of the smaller unions."

He wants Congress House to take steps to end the antagonism that sometimes exists between white and blue collar workers who share the same employer.

If this were achieved merger discussions, for instance, between the National Union of Public Employees and the National and Local Government Officers' Association would be speeded up.

The MSF was formed earlier this year when two white-collar unions merged.

Mr Gill, who was expelled from the Communist Party three years ago for opposing its drift towards Euro-Communism, is a Marxist whose views are respected if not

shared on the TUC's general council. Closely identified with the views of the Communist *Morning Star*, he is the most articulate and effective spokesman for the left in trade union politics.

He has had a high profile in the conflict between the TUC and Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, which was recently expelled from the TUC.

Competition between the two organizations is likely to increase. Mr Gill made it clear that he would do everything he could to help the break-away electricians who have formed the Electrical, Industries and Plumbing Union.

"The electricians should have the right to remain part of the wider trade union movement."

But the right to sign a strike-free agreement will not be tolerated under the TUC's new code of practice, which outlines such deals unless forced upon a union by the employer.

Mr Gill also said "beauty contests", where unions compete with one another in front of the employer for recognition, were undignified and should be banned — or at least strictly regulated.

Tourism urged to move up market

By Shona Crawford Poole, Travel Editor

Britain's tourist industry must move up market and provide a classier product if it is to hold its share of high spending visitors from America, Japan and our European neighbours.

An American Express report, *European Travel — The Way Ahead*, says that while Europe accounts for 59 per cent of international tourism receipts, its share of "world arrivals" has declined by 5 per cent in the past decade.

As a result, the report says, Europe needs to adapt itself to a changing market which requires less emphasis on sun-and-sand and more on products for long-haul travellers as well as for higher spending fellow Europeans.

Britain's greater reliance on the spending power of American and Japanese visitors — they account for 63 per cent of our tourist earnings, more than other European countries — makes this country especially vulnerable to any continued decline.

Predictions include a doubling of Japanese travellers abroad by 1992, and they will outnumber Americans in some European countries including France, Switzerland, Turkey and Portugal.

Commenting on the findings, Mr Eric Brannan, vice-president of American Express Travel UK, said: "In the single market environment of 1992, the potential for European tourism is tremendous, but far from guaranteed."

"We need to promote Europe relentlessly to the Japanese, and gear up for the American market. We must adapt to the strength of the dollar and sell value for money, while offering the affluent experienced travellers a quality product. At the same time we should not ignore the high spending Europeans who will not be persuaded away from the long-haul option if all they are offered is mass market sun-and-sand."

The loyal American visitor is identified by American Express as a key target while the "business extender" is seen as a "relatively new and totally underexploited market".

The report's advice is to:

- Sell Europe on the "brand name" quality of its products.
- Watch the US dollar. Plan for slow growth in the American market and target "loyal" American visitors to Europe.
- *European Travel — The Way Ahead* (American Express Europe, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NH; £100).
- *Intourist*, the Russian tour company, said yesterday it had turned away more than 40,000 potential visitors because of lack of hotel beds.

A massive hotel building project should provide an extra 25,000 beds by 1991.

"Russia is the biggest country in the world — but a firm like Thomson's have got more beds in Majorca on any one night than we can offer," Mr Des McGinness, the Intourist sales director in Britain, said.

sent up to 25 per cent of the cost of a house. In Britain, it was about 50 per cent.

Lord Vinson, in presenting the commission's annual report in London, said more land in villages must be released for development if there was to be any chance of re-creating balanced communities. Affordable homes must be provided for low-income groups.

The Housing Corporation's rural allocation of 600 houses a year by 1990-91 was not enough. Just 2 per cent of its funds went to rural areas.

Edith Rudinger, editor of the book, said so far as she knew no former owner had been penalized in this way because "when assigning a lease everybody inserts an indemnity clause against the possibility. But the obligation exists, which is why the book alerts people to the situation".

Buying, Owning and Selling a Flat (Subscription Department, Consumers' Association, PO Box 44, Hereford SG14 1SH; £6.95).

It tells flat buyers that if they are the first leaseholder, they are responsible for

breaches of the lease even after they have sold.

The pitfalls of buying a flat, and the obligations that can remain long after it is sold, are outlined in a new *Which?* guide published today by the Consumers' Association.

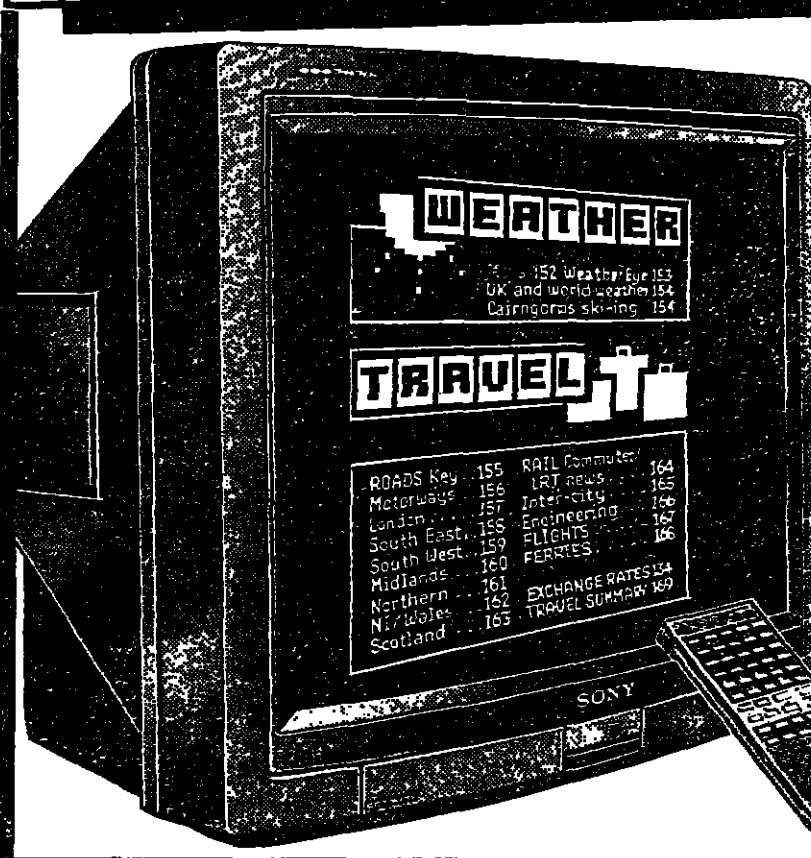
Buying a flat is a complex matter and the book emphasizes the importance of understanding the lease and any covenants involved.

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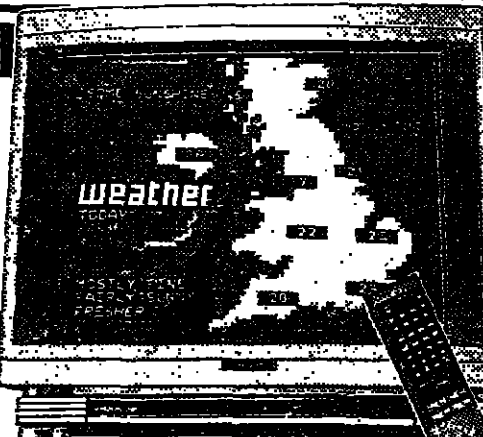
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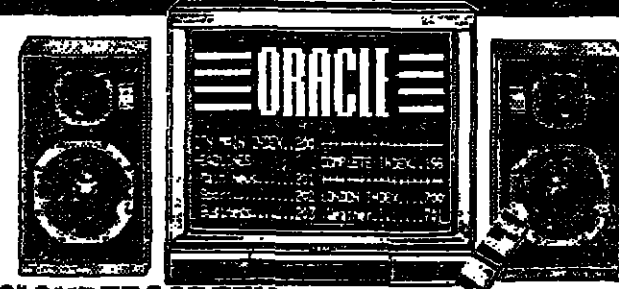
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US missiles turned into scrap metal

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

American engineers were hard at work again yesterday turning nuclear missile equipment into scrap metal under the watchful eye of Soviet inspectors who arrived in West Germany to observe the first destruction procedures carried out under the Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty outside the United States.

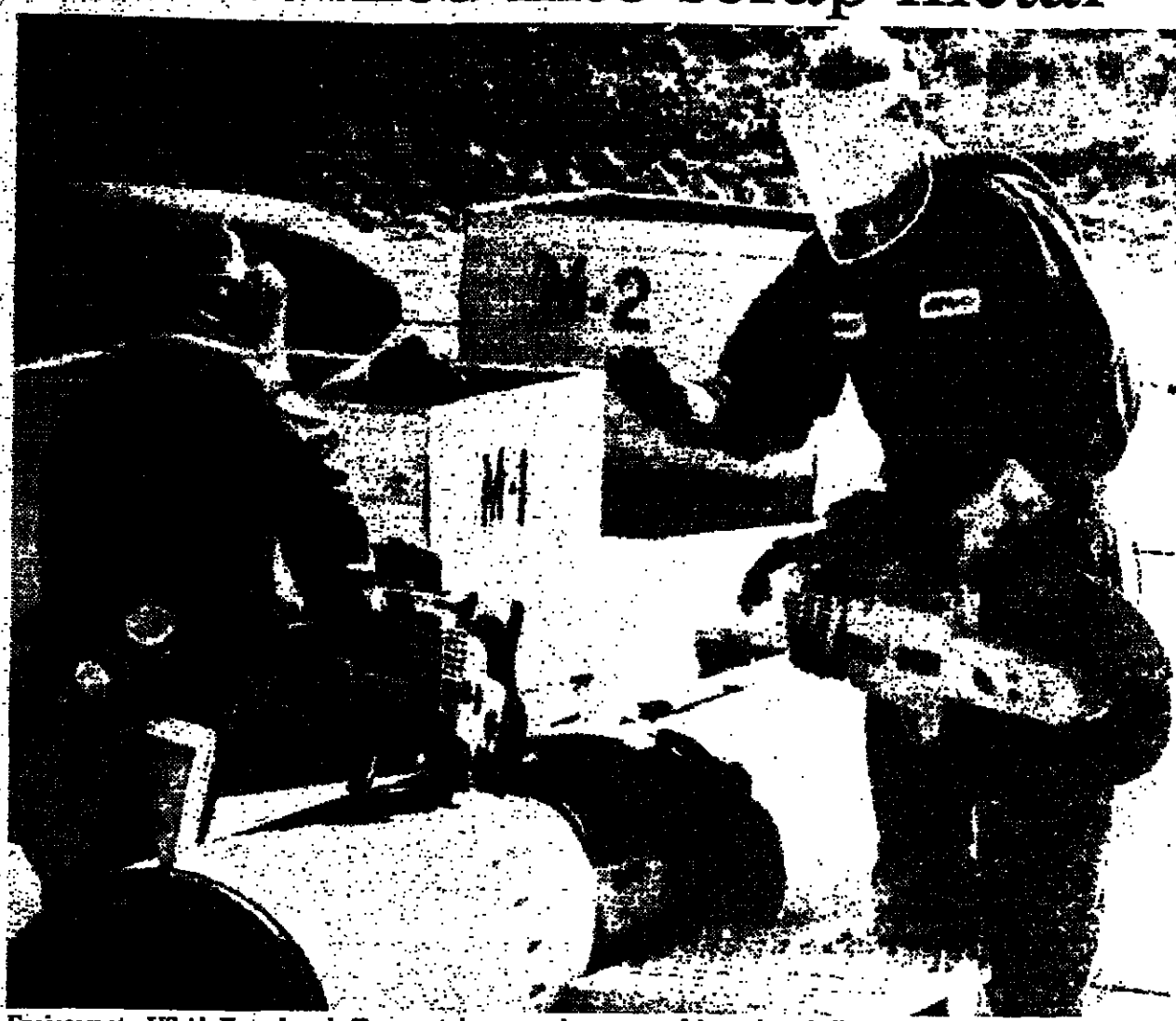
On Tuesday engineers began cutting up cruise missiles with electric saws at a US base in Tucson, Arizona. Yesterday it was the turn of the Pershing 2 missile launchers at the US Hahnemann base at Frankfurt, West Germany.

Engineers applied cutting torches to nine of the 115 American Pershing 2 launchers to be scrapped under the INF Treaty.

Ten Soviet inspectors watched as crews at the base worked on the trailer-mounted launchers, which cost \$830,000 (£474,000) each and are being sold for scrap.

Under the treaty, signed by President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in December, all land-based nuclear missiles with a range between 300 and 3,400 miles have to be destroyed by July 1991, together with their launchers.

The first Pershing 2s were blown up in Texas last month after removal of warheads and guidance systems.



Engineers at a US Air Force base in Tucson, Arizona, cutting up one of the cruise missiles scrapped under the INF treaty.

Republics unite against Serbia at key talks

Milosevic fails in power bid

From Richard Bassett, Belgrade

A Serbian attempt to impose a more centralist solution to Yugoslavia's political and economic crisis failed yesterday at the end of a bitter three-day Central Committee meeting.

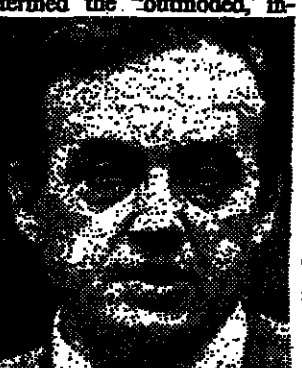
The president of the Yugoslav Communist Party, in an unprecedented decision to submit himself to the test of a secret ballot, was reaffirmed yesterday despite months of public accusations.

Although four presidium members had already tendered their resignations, the decision of the remainder to remain is a clear victory for opponents of the charismatic Serbian leader, Mr Slobodan Milosevic, who has in recent months demanded the resignation of the entire leadership.

The four are Mr Franc Setine, a Slovene; Mr Bosko Krunic, from the autonomous province of Vojvodina; Mr Milanko Renovic, from Bosnia-Herzegovina; and Mr Koli Siroka, from the troubled province of Kosovo. Before

the 141-strong committee made its decision for a secret ballot late yesterday afternoon, Mr Stipe Suvor, the president of the presidium, replied to attacks from Serbian politicians.

He was supported by Mr Stefan Korosec, the presidium secretary, who said that only a "democratic process" would put an end to what he termed the "outmoded, in-



Mr Suvor in his moment of triumph at the party talks.

efficient style of the country's present Government". In a thinly veiled reference to the aggressive tactics of the Serbian leadership, Mr Korosec said it was important that the presidium enjoyed the confidence of the whole country and was able to carry out its work without intimidation.

At the same time, a special commission was established to implement the "renewal" of the Central Committee. The long-awaited purge of more than a third of committee members has now been postponed for six weeks. The commission will attempt to discover whether it is possible to introduce new blood.

By the end of its deliberations, the last survivors of the partisan generation which has run Yugoslavia since the war will be removed.

Mr Suvor was at pains to give reassurances yesterday that there would be continuity of revolutionary traditions. "This is a political decision

which will involve separating state and party functions. It is part of a programme of liberalization. For decades, the failure to achieve this separation had blocked reforms. The party must finally break away from being a party of power which controls everything."

Mr Suvor also accused Mr Milosevic of organizing a drive to establish a system in which the "party controls all state, all government, all social and all economic life."

Other members of the Central Committee also criticized Mr Milosevic. Mr Stefan Santo, who represents Vojvodina, referred to speeches from the Serbian leadership in the past three days: "We have been listening to stories. I have listened to these for the past four weeks. I think I can recite them by heart better than those who are actually delivering these words."

Mr Goze Stokar, a Slovene member of the Central Committee, eyed Mr Milosevic and

declared: "Among us we have people who, while claiming to be in favour of reform and a market economy, still demand greater centralization."

Both the decision to hold a commission to discuss personnel changes in the Central Committee and the failure of Serbian pressure to achieve mass resignations are a setback for Mr Milosevic. He must rethink his tactics, as it has become clear in the past three days that the other republics are prepared to sink their differences in order to face a common foe.

Significantly, mass demonstrations by Serbian nationalists, similar to those which have disrupted life in Serbia and Kosovo during the past two months and which were planned for today and this weekend, have been called off.

Without doubt, it is Mr Suvor and not Mr Milosevic who has emerged from the three-day meeting with more credit.

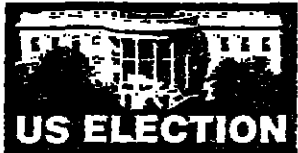
Pledge on Nato troops by Bush

From Christopher Thomas
Detroit

Vice-President George Bush gave an emphatic pledge yesterday to maintain American troop levels in Europe, saying: "About the worst thing we could do would be to shake European confidence and to worsen conventional force imbalances."

The promise came in a tough-talking foreign policy speech clearly designed to make him sound more presidential.

Mr Bush is a man transformed. As internal Republican polls show him coasting to an ever-widening lead — including a probable victory in all-important California — he appears cool and relaxed. Even his speaking style has



changed: the timing is perfect, the delivery unhesitating.

Belittlement of Governor Michael Dukakis's lack of national and international experience peppered his speech to University of Michigan students yesterday.

He said a renewed burst of postwar peace and freedom was possible. But he added pointedly: "It's not going to happen unless we have an experienced, realistic and strong President."

Mr Bush's official campaign film makes much of his foreign policy experience, focusing at length on handshakes with world leaders.

Most of this week has been spent polishing that image. "I've come to know all the European leaders. Familiarity and consultations with them, whether their countries be large or small, is crucial," he said.

He told the students that he wanted a Nato summit to look at the state of the alliance "as we prepare for a new decade and a new century."

Mr Bush has developed a tendency almost to claim the Reagan legacy as his own.

"After eight years of rebuilding America's strength and purpose, we have seen a change for the better once more," he said, citing Soviet withdrawals from Afghanistan, talks to end Cuban involvement in Africa, the Gulf ceasefire, the "sobering" of Colonel Gaddafi and the INF accord.

WORLD ROUNDUP

French 'flew Gulf combat missions'

Paris — French Navy pilots are alleged to have flown alongside Iraqi warplanes during some of the fiercest fighting of the Gulf War (Philip Jacobson writes). According to yesterday's *Le Canard Enchaîné*, the normally well-informed weekly, the pilots were operating advanced strike aircraft which France "lent" to the Iraqis in 1983. They allegedly flew without identity papers and were not wearing French uniforms. The Defence Ministry will not comment.

The report, which concerns five Super-Étendards that left France in 1983, claims that for several months up to 1985 French Navy instructors teaching Iraqi pilots to fly Mirage F1 attack planes bought from France were accompanying their pupils on deep-penetration bombing raids. The magazine said that it was not known if French warplanes had actually taken part in combat operations, but "it is not out of the question..."

● Washington: Despite repeated US assurances that it would never again negotiate arms for hostages, Iran tried stubbornly through unofficial emissaries in Britain, Israel and Argentina to arrange a new deal involving buying US-made F5 jet fighters from Chile, according to ABC News.

MPs pay visit to Syria

Four British members of Parliament — two Conservatives, Mr Robert Adley and Mr Robert Hicks, and two Labour, Mr Andrew Faulds and Mr Stuart Randall — yesterday began a visit to Syria despite the Foreign Office's opposition (Andrew McEwen writes). They expect to see Syrian leaders, including Mr Farouk al-Shara, the Foreign Minister.

Mr Hicks, the MP for Cornwall South-East, said the delegation would discuss the issue of British hostages in Lebanon, where Syrian forces control the area of west Beirut in which they are probably held. The MPs were invited by Damascus in an apparent attempt to extend an olive branch to Britain, which broke off diplomatic relations in 1986 after the conviction of Nezar Hindawi for attempting to blow up an Israeli airliner. The British authorities obtained what they saw as clear evidence that he was controlled by Syrian intelligence.

Threeway Nobel prize

Three American scientists share this year's Nobel Prize for Physics for discoveries that have given a better understanding of the neutrino, the most mysterious but most abundant particle in the universe. Because they go unseen, they are sometimes called the missing mass of the universe (Pearce Wright writes).

The \$400,000 (£228,000) prize was awarded yesterday to Dr Leon Lederman, aged 66, director at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois; Dr Melvin Schwartz, aged 55, now president of his own firm specializing in computer communications in Mountain View, California; and Dr Jack Steinberger, aged 67, a US citizen born in West Germany, and a senior physicist at the European Centre for Nuclear Research (Cern), near Geneva. They invented an elaborate, huge experiment that for a fraction of a second generated and captured some neutrinos.

Nuclear plant anger

Washington — Echoing a wave of public anger that has swept across the Midwest, Governor Richard Celeste of Ohio demanded that President Reagan shut down the government-owned Fernald uranium processing plant, which has been leaking radiation for more than 30 years and is alleged to have damaged the health of nearby residents (Michael Binyon writes). The plant processes uranium for use in nuclear weapons. The Department of Energy admitted last week that the Government knew of the plant's dangerous environmental problems since it was established in 1951.

Dissident speaks out

Nairobi — Mr Maina Wa Kinyatti, a former lecturer at Nairobi's Kenyatta University, defied warnings against talking about his imprisonment after being freed on Monday to claim he had been falsely imprisoned and mistreated during his six-year term (Andrew Buckoke writes). He spoke of attempts to make him confess to crimes and insisted that he had been jailed because of his political beliefs.

Paratroop attack on Palestinian village

Israel storm over looting claim

From Ian Murray, Qaffin, occupied West Bank

A brand new Palestinian flag hangs defiantly from the telephone pole at the point where the only road climbs past the school up towards what passes for a village square.

The concrete school wall, with its anti-Israel graffiti, has been smashed into the playground, a giant tree beside it uprooted and tossed into the rubble. In houses on each side of the dusty road heading east out of the square, angry women are sweeping up broken china and glass and comparing stories of what happened on Saturday when the Israeli Army arrived to arrest young men suspected of stone-throwing.

According to villagers, the troops opened fire with live

The Army does not dispute that its troops caused considerable damage in the village, but the unit which carried out the raid says that it used no more force than was necessary to catch and arrest several of the young stone-throwers who have been making Highway 585 through the West Bank a dangerous route to follow.

The village of Qaffin is an obvious stronghold of the Palestinian uprising, even though scarcely four miles from Israel itself. The remnants of Palestinian flags dangle from electricity wires.

The school, largely unused for nearly a year, stands empty at the start of the village. What is left of its surrounding wall carries black but fading PLO graffiti urging resistance, as well as the fresh red graffiti of Hamas, the new Islamic resistance movement, promising that the struggle to free the Muslim holy places in Jerusalem will succeed.

The pupils roam the streets and surge suspiciously round any stranger. They tell how the Israelis arrived just before noon on Saturday, and claim the first thing they knew was a burst of gunfire.

Their story is out of keeping with the one they tell proudly of how two weeks earlier they had beaten off an Israeli patrol three Jeeps under a hail of stones. It would be strange if a village which boasts that it has its own well-organized early-warning system would have been caught out by 20 Jeeps,

two buses and a bulldozer. What could well have happened is that the troops this time were taking no chances, and fired as they entered the town at the place from which they had been ambushed before, to scatter any waiting stone-throwers. The boys then ran off, with the troops in hot pursuit. The villagers say that on that day all the young people were out in the fields harvesting olives, with only the elderly and the children left in the village.

The boys say they followed well-used escape routes to hide in the hills behind the houses. Perhaps some of the escaping boys ran into the courtyards of the houses along the streets and threw shut the

● Nearly every pane on one side of the house was broken ●

big solid iron gates behind them. That is what the Army claimed happened.

Aishah, aged 80, lives in one of the best houses in the village. She said she was asleep in an old outhouse in the courtyard when she was woken by a banging on the iron door.

As she went over to it, she said, it burst open and Israeli soldiers charged in. She showed her heavily bandaged and bruised wrist. One soldier had hit out at her with the butt of his rifle, knocking her to the ground. She described how the

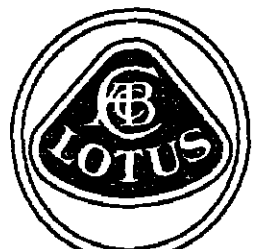
troops then smashed their way into the empty house.

In one room a heavy china cabinet was upside down on the floor, with a television set smashed under its weight. Nearly every pane of glass on one side of the house was broken. The marble top of the kitchen working surface was cracked in two and the gas oven had been thrown to the floor.

In one bedroom, she said, one of her sons had left a jacket with 180 Jordanian dinars (£300) and a watch in the pocket. They were gone when the troops left, she said.

Without the names of complainants, the army said it could not investigate the thefts. The army spokesman said he just could not believe that Israeli soldiers, especially from the elite paratroopers, would stoop to stealing.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Defence Minister, says that the Army's firm ability to meet violence with force is slowly crushing the spirit of Palestinian resistance. So far this lesson does not seem to have been understood in Qaffin. New posters of Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, are sprouting on telephone poles just days after the raid. At one point an Israeli jet thundered low over the village and one boy looked up and gave it a contemptuous reverse V-sign. It was a futile gesture, but seemed to symbolize the failure of Israel's might to crush the uprising.



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Queen takes home Goya's Wellington

From Alan Hamilton, Madrid

The Spanish, according to the eighth Duke of Wellington, do not recognize fully what his illustrious ancestor did for them. In their national military museum the only acknowledgement to Wellington's six-year Peninsular campaign is one miniature painting.

This was corrected yesterday when the Queen, on the third day of her state visit to Madrid, opened a major exhibition of Wellington's Spanish campaign which features

a large number of paintings and personal artifacts sent from Britain, including Goya's portrait of the Duke from the National Gallery.

Large crowds gathered to see the progress through Madrid of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, and their own royal couple, King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia, snarling up further the city's already chaotic traffic.

But then there was a reminder of when England and

Spain were mortal enemies, in the 400th anniversary year of the Armada, when the second Elizabeth entered the basilica of El Escorial, where Philip II received the news of his fleet's defeat while at prayer.

On more immediate differences between the countries, the Spanish have been encouraged greatly by passing references to Gibraltar by the Queen and their own King.

The Madrid daily *Yo* said that the comments by both the

Queen and King Juan Carlos had improved the atmosphere. "Though we will have to wait until meeting of Sir Geoffrey Howe and Senor Francisco Fernandez Ordaz (the Foreign Minister of Spain), in December to see whether the visits of Margaret Thatcher and the Queen have served some practical purpose."

The time had come, it said, to concentrate on the current relationship instead of dwelling on historic flaks.

Worst day in history of India's domestic flights

Air crashes in Assam and Gujarat leave 164 dead

Ahmadabad (Reuters) — Two ageing Indian airliners, a Boeing 737 and a Fokker Friendship, crashed yesterday, killing 164 people in the worst day in the country's domestic aviation history.

In this western city, 130 people died when the 18-year-old Boeing 737, belonging to state-owned Indian Airlines, dived into a field, hit an embankment, severed power lines and burst into flames, airline officials said.

Just two hours after the disaster, the 25-year-old Fokker Friendship, belonging to India's second domestic airline, Vayudoot, crashed in the north-eastern state of Assam, killing all 34 people on board.

Five people who survived the Ahmadabad crash received burns and three were in critical condition. Mr N.K. Rao, an Air India official said.

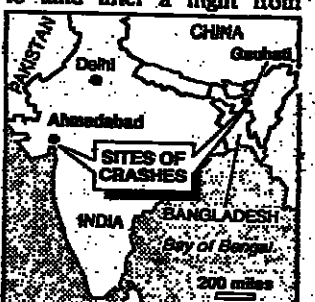
He told reporters that the crash site, on the outskirts of Ahmadabad, was littered with

charred bodies when he arrived half an hour after the early morning crash.

"I saw a leg dangling from the burning cockpit, and grabbed it, but it was just a leg. The rest of the body must have been completely burnt," he said.

A police officer, Mr Viram Rabari, added: "I just couldn't stomach the sight of so many charred bodies. The clothes were still burning after half an hour."

Pieces of the devastated aircraft, which was coming in to land after a flight from



Bombay, were still smouldering seven hours after the crash.

Mr Derry Pais, the Indian Airlines managing director, said the plane's flight recorder had been recovered, but its voice recorder was badly damaged. The cause of the crash was not yet known.

Initial reports blamed poor visibility, but local reporters said the morning fog in Ahmadabad, the biggest city in Gujarat state, was no worse than usual for the time of year.

Early reports said 35 people were on board the Fokker Friendship turbo-prop aircraft on a 95-mile flight from the Assam town of Silchar to Gauhati.

Mr A.K. Malhotra, the Vayudoot operations manager, said that there was no indication of what had caused the crash.

Officials in Gauhati said efforts to reach the crash site on a forested hillside 12 miles

away were being hampered by bad weather and difficult terrain. Only one rescue helicopter had been able to land at the site so far. Other rescue workers were making their way over the poor mountain roads.

Indian Airline officials said two Japanese, three Germans and two other foreigners were among the dead in the Ahmadabad crash. Five infants had been on board.

Special flights were arranged to take relatives from Bombay, India's commercial centre, to Ahmadabad.

"I have lost everything," Mrs Subha Shah sobbed as she flew to try to identify the bodies of her son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

The worst Indian air disaster was in June, 1985, when an Air India Boeing 707 carrying 329 people from Canada crashed into the sea off Ireland. Sikh militants said they put a bomb on board.

Military marriage lines in Taiwan



Eighty-four officers of the Taiwanese Army lining up with their brides during a mass wedding ceremony which was held yesterday at Langtan, in northern Taiwan. General Huang Hsin-chiang, Commander-in-Chief of the island republic's Army, presided over the event, and each of the couples was presented with a gift of cash equivalent to £100.

Fatality toll adding up to bleak year

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Concern is growing that 1988 could become one of the worst years on record for fatal accidents to passenger-carrying commercial aircraft.

The first half of the year was regarded as about average, with 19 accidents reported worldwide in which 499 people died. But in the past few months there have been at least eight more serious accidents. Most worrying is the growing tendency for accidents to occur in Third World countries or involve aircraft belonging to these nations.

Well over half have involved bad weather leading to concern

that pilots are either not following international procedures or are taking unacceptable risks in trying to land when visibility is poor.

Among the worst disasters this year have been:

January 18: A Southwest China Airline Ilyushin 18 exploded on landing at the southwestern city of Chengqing. All 108 people aboard were killed.

March 17: An Avianca Airlines Boeing 727 crashed into a mountain just after take-off from Cali, Colombia. All the 137 people on board were killed.

May 6: Thirty-six people died when a De Havilland Canada Dash 7 smashed into a cliff-side on an island off central Norway during a domestic flight.

August 2: Twenty-five people died when a Soviet-built Yak 40 burst into flames seconds after take-off from Sofia.

August 31: A Chinese Trident from Canton with 89 passengers and crew crashed into Hong Kong Harbour and broke in two while landing in bad weather, killing six crew. One of the 13 injured died in hospital later. Also, a Delta Air Lines Boeing 727

leaving Dallas for Salt Lake City crashed just after take-off, killing 16 people.

September 9: A Vietnamese airliner, which witnesses said was struck by lightning, crashed just before landing at Bangkok, killing 75 people.

October 7: A Soviet-built Ilyushin 14 crashed into a hotel in Shanxi province, northern China, killing 42 of the 46 people on board.

October 17: A Ugandan airliner crashed and burst into flames at Rome, killing 31 people. The plane was making its third attempt to land in thick fog.

Hair-raising tale of Chinese intrigue

From Catherine Sampson Peking

Mr Zhao Zhanhuang, one of China's proudest sons and the millionaire inventor of 101-brand anti-balding liniment, has a major headache.

He is accused of having stolen the formula for the wonder drug, which has been lauded to the skies, has won three international awards, and even more important (for Mr Zhao) has made a fortune in sales at home and abroad.

Mr Zhao has complained for some time of cheap imitations flooding the market. But now Mr Zhu Fengli, who comes from Mr Zhao's home

town, has opened a factory making his own liniment ("Zhu's 101"). He says that he, not Mr Zhao, discovered the drug during research on leprosy and handed it to Mr Zhao to be tested in 1974.

He did not want it tested under his own name, he claims, because he was afraid he would be criticized at work for spending time on research not related to leprosy.

All Mr Zhao's good fortune was the result of his prescription, Mr Zhu says; and not only that, he also says that Mr Zhao demanded that he write a paper on "101" when it had to be appraised officially. Mr

Zhao, who has little education and no medical training, responds that he devoted 10 years and borrowed money to experiment with herbs for a baldness cure after having been moved by the romantic tribulations of a young woman whose hair fell out.

He succeeded, he says, at the one-hundred-and-first attempt.

As for asking Mr Zhu to write the paper on "101"... he was an old friend, he was a doctor, he knew about such things, so he had asked him to give him a hand. But Mr Zhu had not been much help. The battle is an embarrass-

ment not only for Mr Zhao but also for Chinese officialdom, which has welcomed his international acclaim and presented him both as a model of the entrepreneurial spirit and as a model socialist, selflessly serving those with less hair than himself.

It also represents a knotty problem for China's fledgling legal system, complicated by the authorities' desire to make a decision which will ensure a healthy revenue from taxes and exports.

And it must also be said that it is not at all clear either that the lotion works or that it has no side-effects.

Aviation experts puzzled by failures to land in fog

By Our Air Correspondent

Aviation experts were baffled yesterday why two civil aircraft within a week should crash while trying to land in fog when modern instrumentation has virtually eliminated danger from the manoeuvre.

In Rome on Monday, when a Uganda Airlines Boeing 707 crashed on landing, and in yesterday's accident involving an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 at Ahmadabad, the pilots apparently made several attempts to touch down in thick fog but ploughed into the ground short of the runway.

All commercial aircraft are equipped with an instrument landing system, known as ILS, which was introduced as standard at most main airports more than 30 years ago.

Two beams sent out from the runway are picked up by instruments in the aircraft and a simple cross is displayed in front of the pilot. If he is too high, too low, or veering to one side of the centre line the cross bars move. By keeping

them in the centre of the instrument panel, he knows he is on the correct glidepath.

Aircraft pick up the beams about eight miles from the runway and then simply lock on to them, enabling the pilot — even in the thickest fog — to ensure that he is approaching the airport correctly.

He must himself be able to see the runway when he is between 800ft and 200ft from touchdown, depending on the instrumentation in use, the proximity of high ground, and the airline's own rules.

If he cannot see the runway at the required decision height, he pulls away and has another attempt. If he still cannot see the runway, he must divert to another airfield.

Even if something goes wrong with the instruments during the descent, a warning device in the cockpit tells him that he is approaching the ground, and a voice, interspersed with a loud klaxon,

tells him to "pull up". Most modern aircraft now flying into and out of British airfields have an even more sophisticated device, which is known as "autoland". This enables a pilot to land his aircraft even if he cannot see the runway at all.

The beams are linked to the aircraft's own flight control system and its altimeter, so that the controls are moved completely automatically until the very point of touchdown. The pilot then has to worry only about being able to see enough of the runway centre lights to guide his aircraft along the taxiway.

The Boeing 737 in yesterday's accident at Ahmadabad was delivered to Indian Airlines in 1971 and was one of the oldest flying. It did not have autoland.

Crash investigators are certain to concentrate on discovering whether the ILS at the airports and in the aircraft was working properly.

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Embattled Takeshita ready to sacrifice shares scandal minister



Mr. Kiichi Miyazawa: Has admitted being 'careless'.

From Joe Joseph
Tokyo

Will the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Noboru Takeshita, have to sacrifice one of his most respected Cabinet ministers to save his Government's neck?

He has already begun to distance himself from the Finance Minister, Mr. Kiichi Miyazawa, who is entangled in a stock-market scandal which is creating more of a political upheaval in Tokyo than anything since the Lockheed bribes scandal of the 1970s.

Mr. Miyazawa, who is accused with other top politicians, senior government officials, businessmen and journalists, of profiting from privileged access to shares in a real estate company called Recruit Cosmos, denies any wrongdoing. He confesses only to being naive and, at most, careless.

In a country skilled at blurring the border between political bribery and a helping hand, his part in

any questionable share deals would usually have made smaller headlines than the opening of a car factory in Osaka. Indeed, most newspapers, until shamed by events, buried the revelations below news of a bureaucrat's involvement in the affair.

What has given the scandal its political spice is not that it might land Mr. Miyazawa in disgrace but that it comes at a time when the Prime Minister already has much to worry about. Parliamentary time is running out for Mr. Takeshita, who hopes to rush a package of tax reforms by the end of the year past a lukewarm public and an open-opposition opposition. It is not only Japan's tax structure hanging in the balance.

Mr. Takeshita, like his predecessor, Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, has pinned his political future rashly to tax reform. Mr. Nakasone stumbled when he failed to persuade his countrymen of the need to overhaul taxes. That memory haunts

Mr. Takeshita. He must hurdle the stock market scandal and the dilly-dallying over tax reform.

To the opposition's glee, the share scandal has provided an excuse to avoid talking about taxes. It erupted three months ago when it was revealed that 76 people, including aides to Mr. Takeshita, Mr. Nakasone, Mr. Miyazawa and Mr. Shintaro Abe, the secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, made good profits after buying stock at advantageous prices in Recruit Cosmos. The shares boomed when the company was later floated.

The Government has insulated itself from much of the heat by saying that ministers' aides bought the shares without the knowledge of their superiors. But the opposition Communist and Socialist parties have been nagging away at the affair, convinced that Mr. Hiromasa Ezoe, former chairman of Recruit, sold the bargain-priced shares to Cabinet members' aides

to win political favour for his company.

They have managed finally to produce a document that names Mr. Miyazawa, as well as a former senior civil servant and several top businessmen, as personal beneficiaries of Recruit shares. The document is on the official notepad of Do Best, a cosmetics and detergents wholesaler used by Recruit to funnel the shares to the politicians and businessmen.

Mr. Miyazawa has redefined his role in the dubious share deals. At first he said: "I had no part in the transactions whatsoever. I am a victim." Now he admits that he let a Tokyo businessman use his name to buy Recruit Cosmos stock, but shrugs off opposition calls for his removal by passing it off as a trivial oversight. "It was careless of me," he told Parliament. "I am truly sorry for my lack of supervision over this."

But Mr. Takeshita, too, has grown bolder. Once silent about his

colleague's personal affairs, he now says that an "ethical responsibility" rests with Mr. Miyazawa.

What is making life even trickier for the Government is that for the first time a former senior civil servant has admitted having made two million yen (about £8,400) from buying cheap Recruit stock.

The former bureaucrat, whose name was also on the Do Best list, was head of the Labour Ministry's employment security bureau in 1984, at a time when job vacancy magazines published by Recruit Co. parent of Recruit Cosmos, came under fire for the accuracy of their information. The ministry shelved plans to restrain the magazines after they exercised self-control.

That a former employee of Recruit Cosmos has admitted offering an opposition politician five million yen (£21,000) has also egged on the muckrakers, even though the employee denies that the money was a bribe to persuade

the politician to play down the Recruit affair in Parliament.

Mr. Takeshita's problems have been aggravated by Mr. Ezoe's refusal to testify before Parliament. The LDP pledged to produce him for questioning before a special parliamentary committee to end a boycott by opposition parties of the tax reform debates.

Opposition politicians refused to discuss tax reform unless they were allowed to dissect the Recruit affair. The tactic worked. Mr. Ezoe was due to show his face last week, but sent letters from his doctors claiming that he was suffering from depression and unable to leave hospital.

Mr. Ezoe said he would rather die than release the names of those who had bought his company's shares. As long as Mr. Ezoe fails to talk, Parliament is likely to remain in a legislative slumber. If he does, the opposition will try to pry from him something more to embarrass the Government.

Costa Rica President urges European aid ban on nations blocking way to peace

Arias strives to rescue Central America deal

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

President Arias of Costa Rica, a year after the euphoria of his Nobel Peace Prize, looks and sounds a disappointed man, but not a beaten one.

The Central American peace plan, which shot him and his country to prominence in August, 1987, and brought him the \$340,000 (£194,000) prize two months later, is still alive, if only just. Little remains of the heady spirit of Esquipulas, where the Presidents of Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica committed themselves to peace. Unless they revive the accord at a meeting in El Salvador on November 11, the best hope in years may be lost.

None of the main objectives has yet been attained. The civil wars in Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador have not stopped. Apart from a series of temporary truces in Nicaragua, which have held for six months, the hoped-for ceasefires remain elusive. The target date of November 3, 1987 — for an end to all outside support for rebel groups, an amnesty for insurgents who laid down their arms, and political freedoms for unarmed opposition groups — was not achieved.

Some progress has been made, but the longer-term promise of regional reconciliation and democracy and the setting-up of a Central American parliament seems as distant as ever.

President Arias, author of the plan, and leader of the most stable and democratic country in the region, is struggling against growing scepticism and apathy. In an interview during a visit to London this week, he criticised bitterly all five nations, including elements in his own country, for lack of political will. He accused some countries, without naming them, of supporting the accord in public while secretly trying to undermine it.

But although President Arias is much changed from the optimistic young man of

46 who came to London last year to seek Mrs Thatcher's support, he has not given up.

He called on European governments to force the five back into line by using their economic and political muscle, and urged them to stop aid to countries which failed to implement the plan. President Arias, who came to London after visiting Madrid, said he had appealed for help to the Spanish Prime Minister, Señor Felipe Gonzalez, who will be president of the European Community from January.

"We raised a lot of expectations when we were able to reach an agreement against all odds. When I came to this country to ask for the support of Mrs Thatcher, I remember... everybody was very sceptical and nevertheless the EEC met and voted unanimously to support what you called yourselves the Arias Plan. So we simply cannot... betray all the hope, all the

● The only way to solve the conflicts is at the negotiating table and not on the battlefield ●

faith, all the confidence that you have put in (it)."

He argued that the accord had produced some results, albeit less than expected. "Even though we might not be entirely happy with what we have achieved, it is also true that what we have achieved is thanks to the peace plan and not to the war," he said, pointing to the release of political prisoners in El Salvador, a dialogue in several countries, increased press freedom in Nicaragua, and the truce between the Sandinista Government and the Contras.

But he admitted that there had also been "steps backward". He said: "In the case of Nicaragua, it is indeed very sad... that people have been put into jail because of their criticism of the Sandinista Government after a political

demonstration authorized by the Government.

"I have been insisting with President Ortega that a new negotiation should be initiated between the Contras and his Government, but that the meetings should not be held in Nicaragua. I don't expect any agreement to be reached on a ceasefire if those meetings are held in Nicaragua."

Soon after taking office in 1986, President Arias risked the wrath of Washington by closing bases and an airstrip used by the Contras and refusing a visa to one of their leaders, Señor Adolfo Calero. He has consistently opposed the giving of US military aid to the Contras, which at the time of the accord was running at \$1.5 million a day but has since almost dried up.

"I have disagreed with Washington because I want to avoid war, and because I think the only way to solve the conflicts in the region is at the negotiating table and not on the battlefield," he said.

"I hope that whoever gets elected (in the US presidential election on November 8) will be less committed to a military solution in the region and that there will be more flexibility." But he added that a change in Moscow's attitude was needed too.

"Indeed, I have asked Fidel Castro that, if he honestly supports the Guatemala accord, he should use his leadership to persuade the guerrillas (in El Salvador) to abandon the military path and to gradually incorporate (themselves) into political life once the ceasefire is reached."

His response is that the *comandantes* (guerrilla leaders in El Salvador) are quite autonomous... and that I am overestimating his influence on them."

He left London yesterday, planning to hold a meeting with El Salvador's guerrilla leaders. But Señor Arias admitted that his efforts to persuade them to begin reconciliation talks had so far been "without much success".



President Arias in London yesterday: Bitter at his neighbours for lack of political will. (Photograph: Dennis McNeelance)

Chilean court frees Socialist leader

From Lake Sagaris, Santiago

For the first time since his return to Chile 19 months ago, Señor Cledonio Almeyda, the Socialist Party leader and former Vice-President, became a free man this week when the Supreme Court reduced his sentence to less than the time he has served.

Señor Almeyda, aged 66, returned to Chile in March, 1987 — in open defiance of the Government's 14-year-long exile order against him and other Chileans — and gave himself up to the courts.

The military Government responded first by sending him

into internal exile for three months, then charged him under Article 8 of the Constitution as an apologist for violence. He was found guilty, stripped of his rights as a citizen and sentenced to more than 500 days in jail, which the Supreme Court on Monday reduced to 390 days.

Señor Almeyda told reporters outside the jail where he had spent the past 452 days: "I am very happy. In the first place because of the great victory Chileans obtained on October 5 (the day General Pinochet lost the plebiscite

that would have kept him in power for eight more years) and, secondly, for having won my freedom, thanks to the support and the fight of the Chilean people."

He emphasized that his release was a decision of the Chilean courts and not a gesture of reconciliation by the Government.

Señor Ricardo Lagos, the spokesman for the Nineteen branch of the divided Socialist Party, said Señor Almeyda's freedom was a result of the October 5 plebiscite. Señor Almeyda called for

Chileans to fight for the release of other political prisoners, particularly Oscar Garretón, the leader of the Unitarian Movement for People's Action (Mapu), a moderate left-wing party, and two trade union leaders, Manuel Bustos and Arturo Martínez.

Señor Patricio Aylwin, the Christian Democratic Party leader, said he was very glad Señor Almeyda had been released. He called for the swift elimination of Article 8 which, he said, was "a monstrous aberration of the current regime's judicial system".

Hackers ruin chip programs

Boon (AFP) — West German hackers said to be led by the man whose "club" last year claimed access to Nass computers, have wrecked programs, causing billions of pounds' damage, belonging to several microchip producers.

Using computers at the European Nuclear Research Centre in Geneva, they erased data and substituted dummy programs in work of the Franco-Italian consortium, SGS-Thomson Microelectronics, the Dutch group Philips, and four West German microchip contractors.

In-vitro trio

Perth (AFP) — Surrogate in-vitro test-tube triplets were born here to an Australian woman. Their biological parents were the woman's sister and her sister's husband.

Gang killing

Tokyo — A Korean and two Japanese with alleged links to Japanese gangs admitted sealing the bodies of a stock speculator and his employee in concrete in woods near Kyoto.

US says 'No'

Wellington (AP) — The US has refused to take part in military exercises around Tonga next week because vessels from New Zealand, which has banned nuclear ships, will be there.

Waste barrier

Mantredonia (Reuters) — This south Italian port was paralysed as 30,000 townspeople and fishermen blocked a German ship carrying toxic waste from Nigeria.

Airport attack

Islamabad (AFP) — Fifteen people inside the terminal died in a rocket attack on Kabul airport which caused the area to be evacuated.

Quake aid

Brussels (Reuters) — The European Community is sending emergency aid worth about £200,000 to those affected by Sunday's level-six earthquake in western Greece.

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SPECTRUM

March of the one-man band

THE TIMES
PROFILE

SIR JAMES BLACK

Four years ago Sir James Black, joint winner of this year's Nobel Prize for medicine, took an orphan under his wing. Today's pharmaceutical industry breeds innumerable orphans and has no Barnardo's to foster them and draw out their potential.

The traditional method used by the great multinational companies to discover drugs of medical value has been to set teams of hundreds of chemists to work in great secrecy and at huge expense investigating and synthesizing chemical compounds, and teams of hundreds of biologists to test the more promising-looking ones to see which of them might do more good than harm. Those compounds whose promise is not immediately apparent are ruthlessly discarded.

These pharmaceutical waifs are known as "orphans". They are products and "victims" of a system based on the competitive search for profit, which - for all the waste which occurs on its margins - has generated an historic growth in medicine's ability to control disease. But at a time when traditional methods show clear signs of producing diminishing returns, Sir James's approach and the accolade he has received from the Nobel Committee are a reminder that the big battalions have their limitations.

Black's orphan is called Efamol. A molecule with similarities to the prostaglandin drugs, it is also known as "oil of Evening Primrose", and has some currency in the field of fringe medicine. What he sees in it is still obscure, perhaps even to him.

Four years ago, Black walked out of a job in a giant chemicals company, for the third time in his career. After a period working in his own Victorian home in south London, he is now setting up what his colleague, Dr Paul Gerskowitz, calls "an experiment in the minimalist approach" in new laboratories in Dulwich, with a team of only about 20.

There is an obvious paradox in the inability of the mainstream industry to contain a figure who has provided it with two new families of drugs whose sales are

now worth more than £3 billion a year. But the phenomenon is no mystery to those who know Black, and know the industry. The dynamics of the large-scale commercial search for marketable innovations make a frustrating environment for the creative and prickly individualist.

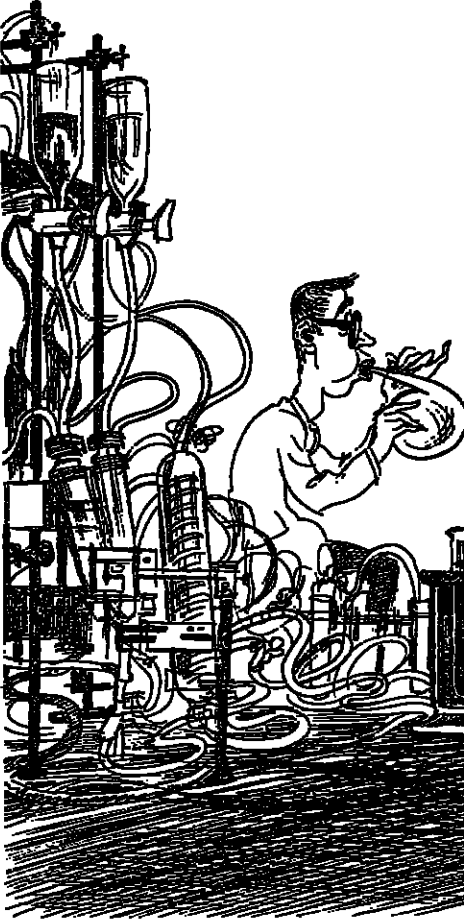
"A lot of people in those big organizations would find Jim baffling because he doesn't promise them drugs," Gerskowitz says. "His career has its own consistency, but what he's really trying to do at each stage is solve a problem in pharmacology. The common factor in his career has been the classification of hormone receptors. He has an uncanny knack of looking at the molecular properties of chemical compounds and relating them to biological patterns. He doesn't set out to heal ulcers, but he can see how an understanding of hormone receptors can be of practical value there."

Among the organization men of the multinational corporations, he has a reputation as an irascible maverick. From their point of view, his career is marked by a consistent pattern of flouncing out, at the very point where the prospect of big dividends appears to be opening up.

Commercial pressures dictate that every major research advance should immediately be squeezed for the utmost potential profit by investigating applications closely related to the original one. That is the point of greatest cost-effectiveness, but the relatively routine work involved is something Black has little patience for.

"While he was at ICI researching beta-blockers, he did it without much support from the management," says a former colleague who worked with him for several tempestuous years. "It is hard to explain beforehand what use a development such as that might be. As soon as he had done it, everyone could see. He wanted to go and climb another mountain."

The difficulties were intensified by his temperament. He is a determined Scot, with a piercing blue eye and a belief in the significance of a firm handshake. Intensely committed to his life-



long deep train of thought, he can be exacting to work with.

"Everybody's told stories about Jim," says the same former colleague. "He is a very complex man. A brilliant personality - a shining personality. He exudes personal charm when he wants to, but he may refuse to talk to his second-in-command because he is feeling a bit vexed with him."

"If he hadn't been a chemist, he would certainly have become a leading lawyer. He is a superb advocate, and he likes to take a position simply for the sake of argument. He has been described as an outstanding leader, but the fact is that when he has been given

a large team, he hasn't been able to handle it. What he needs is others to work on his ideas, not ones who will have ideas of their own."

In addition, he is a very private man. Colleagues who have worked with him for many years can say little about his life and tastes outside the laboratory. One recalls a couple of dinner-parties in a lengthy acquaintance. Another hazards a guess that he is "a poor golfer" - "poor" because he could not possibly have devoted enough time to the game to be anything else - and has heard rumours that he paints as a pastime. He has spoken of his regret that his wife Hilary, who died recently, did not

live to know of his Nobel Prize. Her health was not strong, and this may have turned the couple in on themselves. Their daughter, Stephanie, teaches mathematics.

Gerskowitz loyally rejects the charge that Black is capricious or tyrannical. "I know what they mean when they say it, but the atmosphere in his laboratory is exciting and happy. He consults very widely and listens a lot, and he has an incredibly good sense of humour. But he is better in a small group than in a large organization, because that is what he believes in. He feels that a lot of modern industry is losing the ability to recognize a good idea, because one

guy never meets another. The average research director never meets the research team."

Some regard it as a reproach to today's industry that it has found it so hard to accommodate a spirit which has done it such great services (perhaps it should be said that as a salaried employee he has reaped no direct rewards from the profits which have flowed from his discoveries).

"It is a criticism of today's industry that a man of vision such as Jim, who works on the leading edge of science, has great difficulty in being understood," says a distinguished former colleague.

In recruiting for their new

BIOGRAPHY

1924: Born June 14, studied at Bath High School, Cowdenbeath, and St Andrews University

1946-50: Lecturing posts at St Andrews, University of Malaya and Glasgow Veterinary School

1958-64: With ICI, discovery of beta-blockers

1964-73: With Smith, Kline and French, development of drug Tagamet for peptic ulcers

1973-77: Professor of Pharmacology, University College, London

1978-84: Director of Therapeutic Research, Wellcome Laboratories

1984-1988: Professor of Analytical Pharmacology, King's College Hospital Medical School

"minimalist experiment". Gerskowitz has noticed that people who have worked for some time in the big companies have become "institutionalized figures", whose "orthodoxy has become fixed".

But at a time when the industry is devoting greater and greater resources to securing more and more marginal advances, one is tempted to wonder where the seed-beds for really radical innovation are now to be found, and what fortune might meet a figure like Black if he was starting his career today.

George Hill

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artfile

A weekly look at the art world

Safe in our hands?

£17.5 million. But the desperately needed money was still not available, even though as little as £1 million would have saved many important treasures for the nation. "We taunted the Government daily before the sale with the absurdity of the situation."

There was a positive outcome from the fiasco. An official inquiry was set up, leading to a re-establishment in 1980 of the National Land Fund. It was renamed the National Heritage Memorial Fund, chaired by Lord Charteris, and with an annual budget of £3 million.

And so we arrive at the present. On its own, the £3 million annual grant is feeble in a marketplace where Van Goghs can fetch £30 million. But, if pressed enough, the Government has often dug into its pocket. Nostell Priory, Yorkshire, Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire, and Weston Park, in Staffordshire, were all secured in this way, at a cost of £25 million in total. Last spring, Mrs Thatcher offered a glimpse of enormous further funds when she pledged £200 million to pay for the Thyssen art collection. In the end, she was turned down.

Now there is a lull in the Memorial Fund's activities, although staff talk darkly of a gathering storm, with six important paintings coming to the market. Other heritage crises are still going on - for instance, an important painting by Arthur Devis is to be sold by the British Rail Pension Fund next month. But many items are outside the Heritage Fund's remit to save items of "national", as opposed to "local", significance. How can the situation be

assessed? Any campaigning curator still has to undertake a forbidding obstacle race. First, he is probably short of funds. He can apply to any number of charities, such as the National Art-Collections Fund (£1 million per year); the Pilgrim Trust; even J. Paul Getty Jr., who has a reputation as a knight in shining armour. The curator may be able to arrange a private treaty sale with the vendor, whereby the Treasury agrees to waive tax and the vendor gets a 25 per cent discount. And he can approach the NHMF.

In a recent speech, Lord Charteris, chairman of the fund, said wistfully: "I dream that the memorial had never been plundered but that the money had been allowed to grow... if this had happened, the resources of the NHMF would probably now be about £700 million."

This Government has revolutionized the arts by encouraging private enterprise. Surely there is an argument, both practical and moral in the light of the fund's history, for applying the same principles to the NHMF? If it were to be given substantial funding (like, for instance, the Getty Museum in California), it could invest and manage it in money markets, giving itself a chance to plan for future crises. Perhaps, also, its strict criteria could be extended to embrace more of the heritage items that are being lost.

War and peace

What is Shera Punjab and why does it need New York's Guardian Angels?

The incongruous nature of a liaison between a Sikh group in Birmingham and a volunteer band of self-appointed crime busters from the United States is worrying senior police officers.

Shera Punjab (Lions of Punjab), a Handsworth-based group which claims 5,000 members across the West Midlands, says its motive in inviting New York's Guardian Angels to Birmingham this week is to seek their advice on how to fight crime on the city's streets and within its own community.

This summer a number of its members were arrested after allegedly violent clashes in inner city Handsworth. Local police, who believe that the organization is led by fundamentalist Sikh extremists, strongly suspect that the cause of the disorder was tension between militant Sikhs and "rival" religious groups from the large Asian community - tension which spilled over from communal violence in the Punjab, where Sikhs are fighting for independence.

Shera Punjab maintains that only 50 per cent of its members are Sikhs and that the remainder are either white, black or from other religions

The group was formed two years ago and police believe, contrary to Shera Punjab's claims, that its membership is no more than a few hundred. Bush Singh, 25, a Shera Punjab leader from Handsworth, says his organization is interested only in community work and fighting organized gangs of criminals who deal in drugs and prostitution among the ethnic population.

But the Punjab heritage of many of its members is also important. "Most of us believe in Punjab culture, the Punjab way of life. It is a back to the roots thing," Bush Singh says. In London an organization called the Panjab Unity Forum has been created to bring together different religious groups from the Punjab. K.K. Singh, a London publisher and founder of the group, says it is common for Sikh youths who may never have visited their parents' homeland to become more fundamentalist than Indians themselves.

Bush Singh adds: "We want to work with the police to stop crime, but they do not understand our culture."

Craig Seton

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HEALTH

Exercises for a fit mind

Victoria McKee on a test that gives early warning of Alzheimer's disease

Alzheimer's, a form of dementia, is a relentlessly progressive disease, but its distressing effects may be reduced thanks to a new method of early diagnosis.

Dr David Weeks, principal psychologist at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, has developed a five-minute, six-sentence test which he believes can pick up the preliminary signs of deterioration in time to slow the progress of the disease.

His new Anomalous Sentences Repetition Test (ASRT), developed earlier this year, is already in use in hospitals across the country. It correctly, quickly and cheaply distinguishes between memory loss due to depression, and that due to organic disease such as Alzheimer's.

"Elderly people who say they don't remember, and can't fit the correct names to faces, or have a name on the tip of the tongue and lose it, are probably depressed, not suffering from dementia," Weeks says.

Alzheimer's usually does not begin before the age of 45, and then progresses gradually but inexorably. By the age of 65 between 5 and 10 per cent of the population have it to some degree, and this figure rises to 20 per cent over the age of 80.

With the ageing population increasing so rapidly, Weeks points out, those percentages will represent ever greater numbers. "And dementia in all its forms affects the families of sufferers even more than the sufferers themselves," he adds.

Dementia may be due to several causes, of which Alzheimer's and multi-infarct dementia are the most common and, arguably, the most important. Alzheimer's can

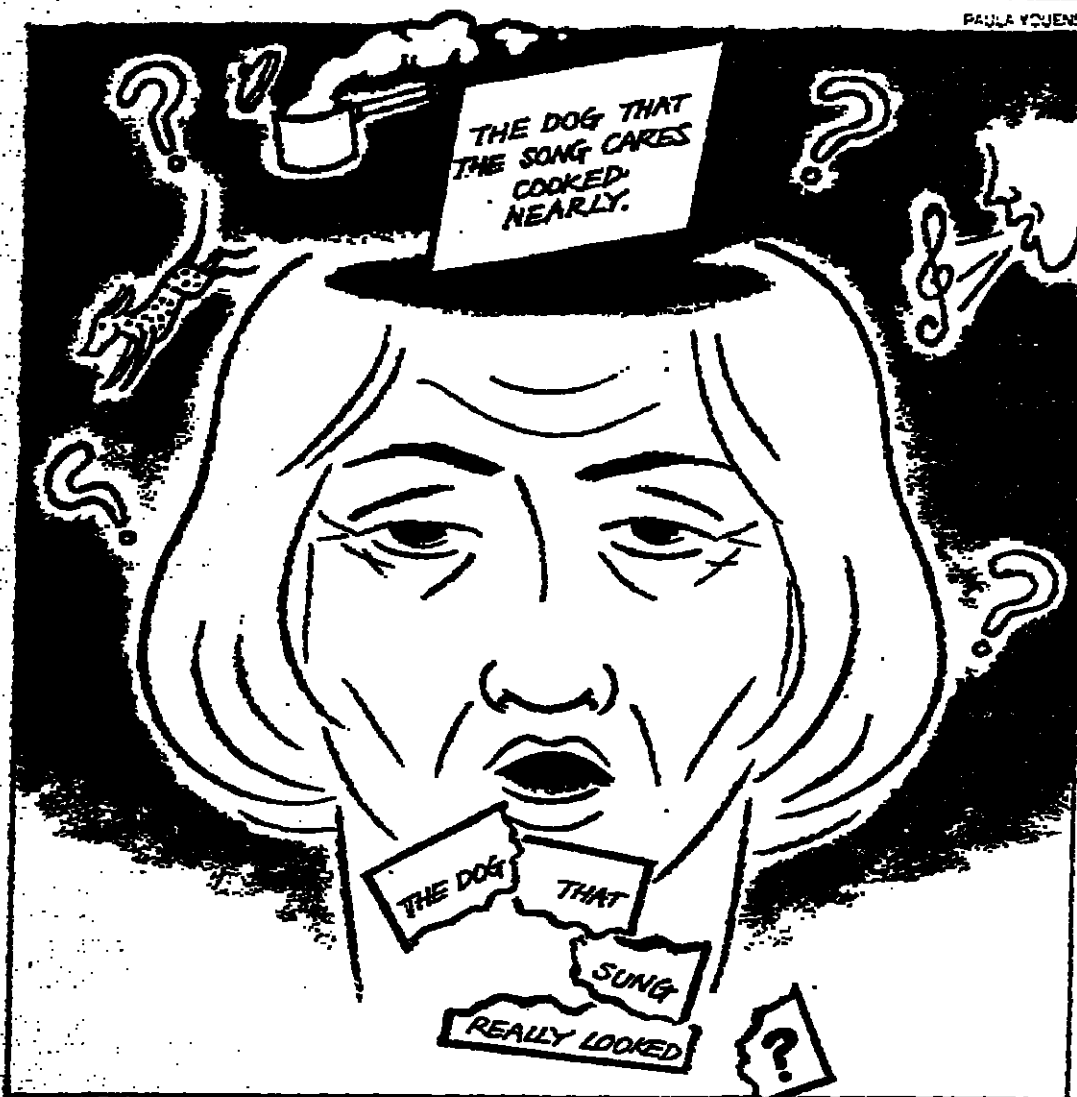
start in younger people, when the brain shows characteristic changes, the neurones become jumbled and disorganized and there is an associated atrophy. In multi-infarct dementia, oxygen fails to reach certain points in the brain because the blood vessels have been blocked by clotting; it is therefore more likely in people with a history of hypertension, strokes or other cerebral vascular abnormalities. Although it is impossible to be dogmatic, it is found that multi-infarct dementia usually progresses in plateau-like phases, whereas Alzheimer's more often shows steady downward deterioration.

Weeks explains: "What is so important about being able to test for dementia is that the sooner you start these therapies the better. Many times patients don't get into therapy until their brains have already atrophied, and the techniques are much more difficult to grasp."

The ASRT consists of six sentences which are read by the tester and must be repeated by the suspected sufferer. There are four different versions so that subjects can be re-tested to distinguish between depression (which is at its worst early in the day, but usually lifts in the afternoon) and dementia (in which the results will get progressively worse as the day goes on), without benefiting from any "practice effect".

"The sentences are all based on the same rules and are very balanced, with a selection of words which are used frequently in the English language, and those which are memorable, pleasant, and so on."

Some are in the "man bites dog" mould, containing a surprising twist - for example "Wasn't the



tanned lifeguard rescued by the slim girl barber?" or "The girl, that the banana eats, was silent he builds" - while others are random strings of seemingly meaningless gibberish - "Not in clocks to the chance paper with reasons"; "The dog, that the song cares, cooked nearly."

"The potential of anomalous sentences was written about by Michael Kopelman of the Maudsley Hospital in 1966," Weeks says.

The work of Dr Freda Newcombe at Oxford in the late 1960s also inspired the development of the ASRT. "She was involved in a study of veterans of the Normandy invasion in the Second World War who had survived bullet wounds to their brains. Because the exact location of the bullet's damage was known it was easier to understand the workings of different parts of the brain."

Dr Newcombe found that many of the men had difficulty with sentences that possessed

complex syntax, were meaningless or very long.

Kopelman, now senior lecturer in psychiatry at Charing Cross Hospital, says: "From a scientific view perhaps the validity of such tests is not yet proved, but from a clinical point they seem a good idea. Alzheimer's patients, perhaps because of their loss of short-term memory, depend strongly on semantic clues. So while they can repeat normal sentences fairly easily, they cannot remember anomalous ones."

Should the ASRT findings be positive for dementia the patient will be referred for confirmation by further psychological tests and brain scans. But therapy can begin immediately, and is now widely available through the NHS solely on the recommendation of a GP.

Therapy for dementia falls into several complementary categories, all of which, once learnt under medical supervision, can be constructively practised by patients and their families at home. They include mnemonics - the knack of pairing unusual images to the word you are trying to

remember; "reality orientation" - trying to orient the person in time and space "by doing very simple things like stating the date, the time and the season over and over again"; "reminiscence therapy" - asking questions about past news scandals and catastrophes, and working with sufferers on the ordering of events; and "sensory stimulation therapy", where visualization techniques are used to stimulate the brain.

One experimental find which Weeks considers highly significant is the way the brain produces a surge called the N400 wave when confronted with a sentence with an unexpected ending. "When the brain is challenged by anything unexpected it has to work harder - that is why you want to continually challenge the brain before dementia sets in."

"An 80-year-old entrepreneur still running his own business can be as mentally alert as an 18-year-old, while the man who is compulsively retired at 65 may allow his mind to stagnate and deteriorate. You need to deliberately not accept an inevitable decline."

A poisonous messenger?

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Mr Justice Auld believed Miss Juliette Cole when she told the court that she had not meant to endanger the new girlfriend of her former lover by sending her Valentine chocolates laced with mercury. Miss Cole's pique may have seemed as unexpected as it was excessive, for it was she who originally rejected the boyfriend, and not the other way round; but whatever her motivation she fortunately chose the least toxic form of mercury, metallic mercury, to inject into the soft centres.

Mercury is a dangerous poison, but if taken by mouth in its metallic form it is unlikely to cause more than gastric and intestinal irritation. Miss Cole was perhaps lucky, for ingested mercury can cause serious trouble, as was demonstrated by a case reported in 1974 when metallic mercury was accidentally introduced into the gut; the mercury eroded its way through the intestine and caused peritonitis and a peritoneal abscess, which chronically discharged intestinal contents through the abdominal wall.

The poisons unit at Guy's Hospital is sometimes asked about the dangers to a patient after a clinical thermometer has broken in his or her mouth. The experts are usually reassuring, and say that in general there is a greater hazard from cuts on the broken glass than

from any of the metallic mercury. Constant exposure of the skin to mercury, or inhalation of mercury vapour, are extremely dangerous. As well as gastrointestinal symptoms they can damage the liver and kidney, cause dermatitis, blindness, neuritis and mental deterioration. They are also a rare cause of excessive dribbling.

Within many doctors' professional lifetime mercury poisoning was quite often seen, as salts of mercury used to be included in a large variety of ointments, in disinfectants, in babies' teething powders, and in the old-fashioned purgative Grey Powders, made from mercury, chalk and sugar. Fatalities were not uncommon.

In the 1980s the chief danger associated with mercury is not the chance of being poisoned by an estranged lover, nor from Grey Powders handed out by somebody with an obsession for laxatives, but from the environmental pollution which results from mercury being wantonly discharged into the rivers or the sea, where it is taken up by fish and concentrated in their flesh. Environmentalists worry that chronic low-grade mercury poisoning, which would leave a pregnant woman unharmed in herself, can be high enough to give rise to brain damage and visual defects in the unborn baby.

Little feet

Generations of doctors who have asked pregnant women the size of their shoes in an attempt to predict the likely outcome of their delivery, were amazed when they read in the *BMJ* recently that a research project has found little or no correlation between shoe size and the chance of a natural delivery. However, they may take some comfort in a contrary report about the experiences of a group of doctors at a Liverpool maternity hospital, where a survey done in 1985 showed that short women under 5ft 1in, who took size 5 or under in shoes, were more than four times as likely to need an assisted delivery as those who had big feet. Other correspondence has sug-

gested that doctors' expectations tend to influence the delivery's outcome, so that when they are expecting a difficult delivery they will manage the labour slightly differently, and these small changes in routine will be more likely to lead to the Caesarean section which they were always expecting. This could be just one of the many factors which contribute to the disparity in the Caesarean section rate in this country, which varies from 9.8 per cent in Wexsex to 12.8 per cent in Wales. The justification for a Caesarean can only be truly assessed many years after the birth, when a child is beginning to show its intellectual ability. All too often a glance at a mother's delivery notes will show that a child who is undershooting at school is the possible victim of an excessively patient consultant who allowed the labour to progress too long.

IT'S JUST AS WELL IT DIDN'T GO IN HIS MOUTH.

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Can cause colon ulcers.

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Much of the 'ice cream' your child eats would be illegal in many other countries.

A chilling thought.

How then, can you make sure it's real ice cream, and not just a cocktail of chemicals, water and air? Swan offer you a way. The NATURAL ICE CREAM MAKER

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TIMES DIARY

DAVID WALKER

The left-leaning intelligentsia bites back. Hard on the heels of the new think-tank, the Institute for Public Policy Research, there is to be an announcement this weekend of the launch of a high-powered new magazine of a decidedly anti-Thatcherite stamp. It is to be a bi-monthly, and is to be edited from the Birkbeck College office of Professor Ben Pimlott.

The political hegemony (as *Marxism Today*, a competitor of the new journal, likes to call it) of Mrs Thatcher has stimulated the radical left into thought, it seems. Pimlott is somewhere in the middle of the Labour Party. He has a major biography of Hugh Dalton under his belt, and was narrowly pipped by Philip Ziegler in the competition to become the official biographer of Peter Wright's favourite premier, Harold Wilson. (He plans an unofficial but scholarly reappraisal of Wilson.) Pimlott is cagey about details but it seems the new publication — name to be revealed on Saturday — will bring renegades from the Labour Party together with the faithful, and even a few Liberals.

The core group includes John Lloyd, Fabian and FT journalist, and Peter Kellner, the realist psephologist; but Richard Holm, ex-president of the Liberals and Anne Sofer of the Democrats (she's ex-Labour) are in there too, reflecting Pimlott's belief that Labour's return to power depends one way or another on "people in other parties talking to each other".

Pimlott's venture, which involves fellow Birkbeck professor Eric Hobsbawm, perhaps inevitably involves the college's lady master, Baroness Blackstone. She has been busy lately. Not only the moving spirit behind the think-tank, she has recently published, with William Plowden, an insider's account of the think-tank, and is being talked about for the vice-chancellorship of the Open University which falls vacant shortly.

Her think-tank book is a classic in setting old scores in an academic way. The man who gets it in the neck is Sir Nicholas Henderson, former Ambassador in Paris and Eurotunnel man. "The CPRS team had expected that their visits would arouse a certain amount of understandable defensiveness and resentment, but Henderson's response was exceptionally hostile. Some of the contrasts were striking. In Tehran, for example, an excellent rapport was easily established, helped no doubt by the open-minded and intellectually searching character of the ambassador himself, Sir Anthony Parsons. Many of the same questions were raised in Tehran as in Paris. They simply got a different kind of hearing."

Not only the left is biting back this week. Lady Porter, the wife of ex-Tesco magnate Leslie and leader of Tory Westminster Council, is said to have once sold fruit from a barrow; she certainly knows a thing or two about street fighting. Needed by some strong opposition recently from the Labour benches on the council she has struck back with a devastating exposé of all things, property developers.

It turns out that Paul Dimoldenberg, the Labour leader on the council, and the chap whom Lady P charmingly refers to as "his henchman", Paul Bradley, are leading lights in the planning development division of Good Relations, a big PR company. It's a fair cop, though not the scandal that Lady P says it is. The most embarrassing bit of Dimoldenberg's potted biography in the Good Relations brochure is not that he hides his former service as head of the Policy Unit with Southwark Council or his political activities at Westminster; it's just that he neglected to mention the word Labour anywhere in his two paragraphs.

BARRY FANTONI



*A little carbon dating would not go amiss

Lady Porter was obviously too busy to go to Leeds this week for the annual meeting of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities. In fact London was not represented at all. It's the kind of gathering where you can safely forget the capital, and fashionable nostrums, left or right. Even in his holiday Ken Livingstone was never very welcome at this meeting. The AMA is men, middle-aged, solid, beer-drinking, and comfortable in the exercise of municipal power. It represents a wide slice of prime urban England, places such as Bolton, Wakefield, Dudley, Barnsley and Gateshead, as well as the big, self-confident cities of Leeds and Birmingham.

Once, not many years ago, the AMA would have raised a government minister — in 1980 the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Geoffrey Howe, came to its annual meeting in Manchester and delivered one of those thoughtful speeches which he gets so little credit for. Now, the Government has its development corporations in place, and wants businessmen to become the city fathers of the 1990s. But instead of a minister, the AMA invited Carlos Cuevas, a tall Hispanic who backs up Mayor Koch of New York as clerk of the New York city council. He went down well, especially when he reminded the Labour councillors — that for all its enthusiasm for contracting out to the private sector, the City of New York still directly employs 14,000 refuse collectors. But Cuevas touched a sore point with his audience. If you wanted to attract good people into government, he said, you had to pay them. If you didn't, private industry would. The failure of the cities to attract good people into serving, largely unpaid, as councillors, was starting to show.

If Nigel Lawson keeps cartoons featuring himself he will have greatly increased his collection in recent months. Two themes recur. The first shows a hurricane about to engulf him (and the Prime Minister) as he talks confidently about an inflation "blip"; the second shows him swollen to monstrous size and at risk of exploding. The message is clear: the Government's policies have brought back the threat, if not yet the reality, of accelerating inflation, after all that has been suffered to bring it under control. No doubt the cartoonists accurately reflect public anxiety and they raise three questions: is there a danger of inflation? Is it the Government's fault, and if it is, what should the Government do about it?

The dangers of inflation are clear. Retail price inflation is approaching 6 per cent and will rise further. Producer price inflation (which does not include the direct effects of mortgage rate increases) has reached 5 per cent. Perhaps more alarmingly, average earnings are now rising by an estimated 9.25 per cent a year. And the rapid deterioration of the balance of payments can also be seen as a signal that demand has been rising far too rapidly. Is it the Government's fault?

Alan Budd assesses the Chancellor's policies on the day of his City speech

Beware creeping inflation

With hindsight it must be agreed that demand should have been slowed down earlier. There are those who claim that the dangers have been apparent for years, but we should treat their claims with caution. They were right in forecasting that demand would grow rapidly, but they were wrong in failing to recognize that the underlying performance of the economy has improved so much that we can grow rapidly without a risk of inflation. However, rather later than they expected, the signs of inflation are evident. (The point of the story about the boy who cried "wolf" is that the wolf did eventually come. Like many economic forecasters he was right about future events but wrong about the timing.) One can also excuse a government which, at Budget time, recognized widely expressed fears of an impending recession.

What should the Government

do now? I believe that its current approach to economic policy is generally correct. Mr Lawson has set out his views clearly enough in recent speeches to the Institute of Economic Affairs and at the International Monetary Fund meeting and no doubt he will explain them further at the Mansion House this evening. The overall principle is that the Government should withdraw, as far as possible, from interfering in the economy. It must get off people's backs. But it must retain the responsibility for controlling inflation. The Government chooses to do this through monetary policy, which, in the short term, means using interest rates.

The most controversial (and least well understood) aspect of its policies is its reluctance to rely on fiscal policy. Mr Lawson spoke in Berlin of those who want to use fiscal policy "in a vain attempt at short-term de-

mand management". That does not, as far as I can tell, mean that the Government denies that fiscal policy is effective, but it believes that it is highly unsuitable as a means of making short-term adjustments to the growth of demand. Those who expect Mr Lawson to introduce an autumn package of fiscal measures fail to recognize that he does not even like using his annual Budget as an instrument of demand management. He stresses instead the longer-term benefits of lower taxes and a balanced budget.

So it is monetary policy that must bear the burden of short-term adjustment. At the moment that means unpopularity high interest rates, but at a later stage in the cycle it can mean agreeably low ones. But reliance on monetary policy does involve difficulties. The main one is the choice of an indicator of monetary conditions. It would be

wonderful if there was one single measure which was both controllable and reliable as an indicator. But the plain fact is (to use one of Mr Lawson's expressions) that there is no such measure. So the Government has to rely on its discretion (and we have to rely on the Government).

The need for discretion introduces the problem of the exchange rate. If we had a reliable monetary indicator we could ignore exchange rate movements. But the government chooses to take these into account for two reasons. Partly it believes that the exchange rate can sometimes provide independent evidence of monetary conditions (that was the lesson it learned in 1980). Partly it believes that a policy of holding the exchange rate stable will act as a powerful means of controlling inflation. That is no doubt true in the long term, but in the short term, pursuit of a stable ex-

change rate can lead it into error, as it did earlier this year. It is all very difficult. But if it was easy the Government would do it, and economic commentators could do something useful instead. It is worrying that we have to rely on the Government's tactical skills and it is even more worrying when its action can always be readily justified and explained by a highly talented Treasury team. But there must be worries that tactical skills are shifting us further from the long-term strategy directed at getting rid of inflation completely. One does not have to be too cynical to believe that there is a regular pattern under which the Government's suggestion that inflation will be down to 3 per cent in four years' time is converted progressively into an inflation rate of 5 per cent when we actually reach the year in question. If the Government really believes that 5 per cent inflation is acceptable it should say so and we can debate the question and adjust our decisions accordingly. But I would like to hear that it intends to go further and will honour its commitment to achieving stable prices.

The author is Economic Adviser to Barclays Bank

Bernard Levin

Exclusive to everybody

The other day I received a letter, all the way from Hightstown, New Jersey, which had me beside myself with excitement. In red capitals, the envelope announced that it contained an OFFICIAL PROPOSAL for me; it had my name spelt correctly and my address in full, including the postcode, thus surely guaranteeing its authenticity. And within a box ruled in more red, the following memorable words appeared, neatly typed:

The recipient whose name appears above has been selected to receive the enclosed Proposal solely because of his or her level of participation and record of achievement in international business. The enclosed Proposal is valid only for the person named above.

Now I bet you didn't know that I have an exceptional level of participation and record of achievement in international business. As a matter of fact, I didn't know either, but I wasn't going to let on, not with an OFFICIAL PROPOSAL waiting for me inside the envelope. True, I had a safeguard: nobody could cash in on my record, because the PROPOSAL was valid only for me. So I poured myself another cup of coffee, took a deep breath and opened the envelope. In it, I found the details of the OFFICIAL PROPOSAL, and amazing details they were too; no wonder they were sent to me solely because of my level of participation and record of achievement in international business.

I don't want to boast, much less make my readers envious, but it was with a quiet pride that I read this majestic accolade: "You have been chosen to receive a 25% saving off a 1-year subscription to *Business Week International*".

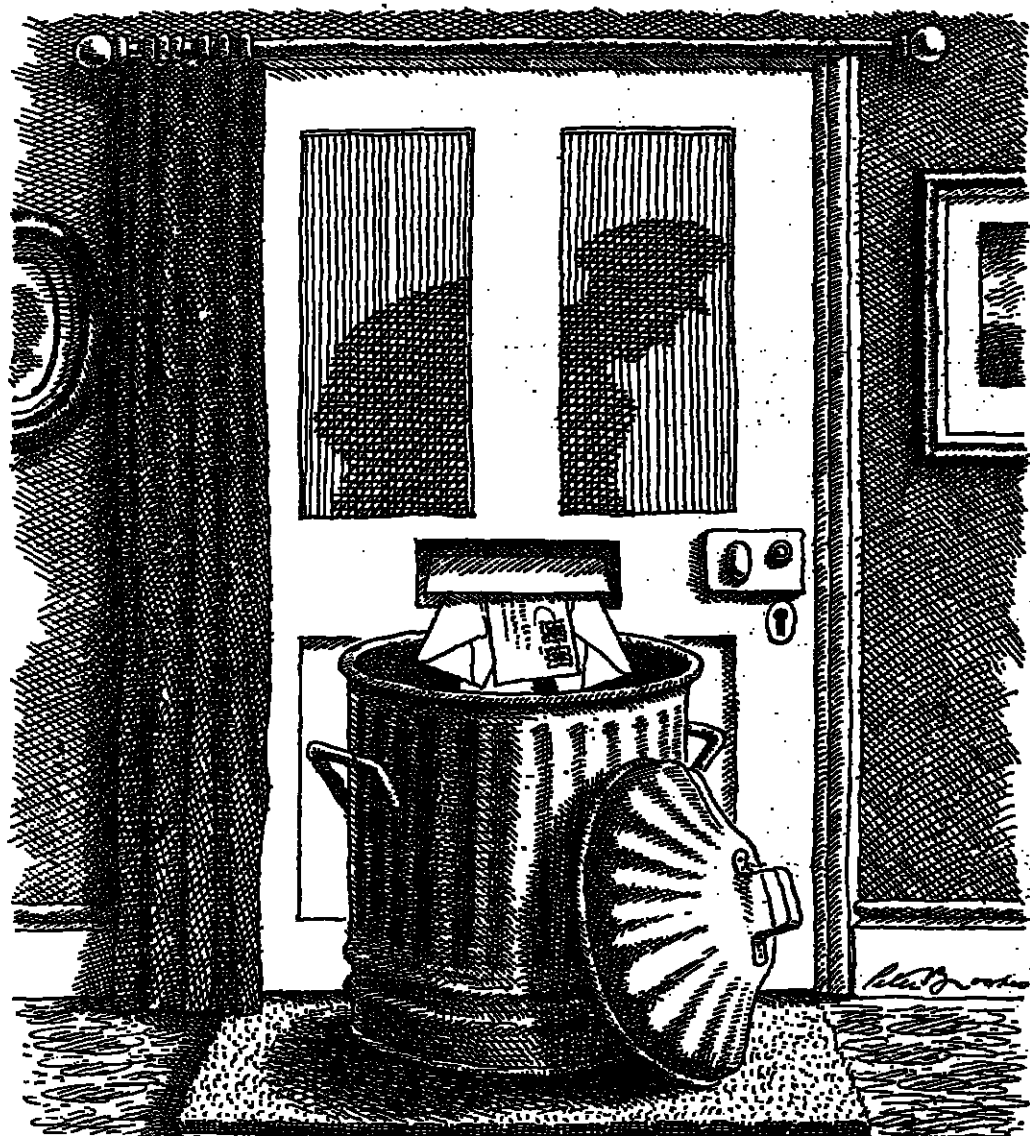
Well, now, I have never been able to summon up the indignation that some people feel about the quantity of junk mail that comes through the letter-box daily. I have four wastepaper-baskets, plus a self-sealing plastic rubbish-bag machine, not to mention a sink disposal-unit, and it would take more junk than I dare say even *Business Week International* could generate to fill them all to overflowing. But I do sometimes wonder whether I

am the only sane man left alive. Let us contemplate the facts above. Obviously, when I read that I had been selected to receive a proposal solely because of my record of achievement in international business, I knew that it was a fake, since I have no international business. But suppose I did have such connections — global deals successfully brought off, world-wide chains of businesses founded, conglomerates and consortiums put together — would I be more gullible, feel more flattered, when I was told in this way that my industry had been noted and was about to be rewarded? And if so, would those feelings survive the opening of the envelope, when I would find that I had been chosen to receive a few lousy quid off a subscription to *Business Week International*?

I am decidedly of the opinion that both those questions would be answered with a very firm No; indeed, I think that the sender's manifest contempt for the intelligence of the recipient would be more resented by a genuine international businessman than by me.

Yet some idiot in the management of *Business Week International* clearly thinks otherwise. An arrangement with a list-broker, a computer-generated mail-shot; sufficient gullibility; and up goes the magazine's circulation, or so the idiot hopes. Never mind the crassness of the message on the envelope, which would surely lead to its being thrown away unopened by anyone with any sophistication except those (like me) with even more inquisitiveness; the recipients would have to be very stupid indeed to read all that guff about being so carefully selected, only to find that the sender neither knows nor cares who the recipient is, as witness that in the middle of the specification the uniqueness of the offer is made somewhat less credible by that tell-tale "his or her".

Presumably there is a formula for such monkeyshines; if x letters are sent out at random, and y recipients sign up for a reduced subscription, there will be a profit of z. And after all, those who are disgruntled by so pathetic a con are not going to do



anything but throw the thing away; they wouldn't go round to Hightstown and break the windows. I cannot believe that this is a cost-effective form of advertising, even without me jeering at it, but presumably there is somebody in *Business Week International* with enough sense to work out the arithmetic, even though there seems nobody to improve the text.

All the same, the most important question is yet to be asked. There are people who cannot resist January sales,

vouchers worth fourpence off the price of a tin of baked beans, goods reduced to clear, government surplus stock and other forms of discount. Some of these people, junk-mailed by *Business Week International*, will fork out £32 (the reduced subscription rate) and feel they have made a bargain. But is there anybody at all who would really swallow the come-on, anybody naive enough to believe the rubbish on the envelope and pay up because of it?

It is an alarming thought, is it

not? To buy something that is not needed, merely because it is cheap today, is a fairly silly thing to do; but to buy it in the genuine belief that the purchaser has been singled out for commendation and monetary reward is, very considerably sillier. Possibly, between the genuine international businessman, who would not base his moves on the junk-mail envelope, and the man with no such business, who would at once spot the game, there is room for someone to be deceived. I cannot be quite sure.

but I doubt it. For remember, the magazine is not a comic, but a severe study of such subjects as "Deutsche Bank: Alfred Herrhausen's bid for global power" and "Deal-maker de Benedetti and the 'Battle of Belgium'". The greater the interest in *Business Week International*, the smaller the effect the scam would have.

It is no use saying that *Business Week International* must know what it is doing; both history and the world of the present are strewn from end to end with falsified assumptions.

I have much sympathy for the businessman who said "I know that half my advertising is wasted, but I don't know which half", but I have much less for the outfit which relies on the belief that half the general public is soft in the head. And the general public would have to be very soft-headed indeed to ring up its friends and relations to announce the glad news that it has been made an Official Proposal for its record of achievement in international business, even if it did not add that the proposal in question consists of a cut in the subscription rate of a magazine.

There's one born every minute? Possibly; but surely there aren't ten thousand born every half-hour. I referred earlier to the manifest contempt for the target audience such advertising must imply, but on reflection I am not so sure; the shadowy idiot I postulated may genuinely think that such gushing nonsense will fetch the customers in huge numbers.

One of the most delightful advertising ideas I ever saw was on a packet of American cat food. The brand name, happily enough, was Miaow, and the slogan read: "So good, cats ask for it by name". I have always wondered why Miaow did not sweep every other cat food out of existence with such a charming and unforgettable joke, but I was never in any doubt that it was a joke. Only think of the horror if the advertising agency which produced it insisted that the claim was nothing but the truth, and that they had an enormous body of research findings to prove it. If so, they must have recently landed the *Business Week International* account.

Commentary • IAN MIKARDO

A touch of brilliance

In a world teeming with dull people (some worthy but dull, some just dull) there's a lot to be said for the odd character who is a bit larger than life; who charms or needles you into listening hard and thinking afresh even when you don't want to; who is not afraid to bite deep into the apple of discord, and grins and twinkles while he's doing it; who plunges into effective action while the others are still making a preliminary survey of the battlefield. A man like that adds to the gaiety of nations, and for that alone it's easy to forgive him his trespasses.

Such a one is Clive Jenkins, co-general secretary of the Manufacturing Science Finance union. When he betakes himself shortly to the other side of the world he will be missed not only by his friends and advisers but also by those (perhaps a greater number) who view him with only a grudging admiration, or even with antipathy.

In truth, Clive is far from being the best-loved man in the Labour movement. It is not merely that, among many of his colleagues, originality arouses suspicion and intellectual superiority provokes resentment; beyond that he offends many by his sometimes cruel bluntness and alienates many more by his know-all mien and his often abrasive intolerance towards those who oppose him. In a competitive milieu it is not easy to be an achiever without making enemies.

And an achiever Clive certainly is. In the years I worked as

a management consultant I met many top-class administrators, but not one that I would put into the same league as Clive. If he had not spent his time building a large and important union out of next-to-nothing he could have managed the Department of Employment, or ICI, or the BBC, or British Aerospace, or a city council, or the International Labour Organisation.

Indeed, I rather fancy that by the 1970s he felt he had reached all his goals in the trade union movement: because he had the private ear of Harold Wilson and later of Michael Foot he was hoping that the next Labour government would appoint him to the chair of either an expanded British National Oil Corporation or a national investment bank.

He has two other highly developed skills which have enabled him to import into trade union organization a technology and a level of art beyond what had gone before. He was an astute negotiator, with a keen ear for the semiotic nuances of bargaining; and he was a colourful and compelling publicist — until he made the mistake of over-exposing himself and then had to draw back.

I first met Clive in 1947, when I was one of three members of the National Executive Council of ASSET (later to become ASTMS, and now MSF) who met to appoint a new assistant divisional officer for the Midlands. Clive was a young and innocent lad, just up from the Welsh valleys, but he stood head

and shoulders above the other applicants. Even at that early stage he showed all the promise of becoming not just an outstanding official but an outstanding general secretary.

It didn't take him long, even in his very junior post, to size up what was wrong with the union, and to decide, and articulate brilliantly, what was needed to put it right. He also saw more clearly than others that the moment was ripe for a great union recruitment of white-collar workers. They were beginning to feel vulnerable, partly because they were often bypassed in negotiations between blue-collar unions and management with a resultant squeezing of differentials, and partly because they were sometimes priority targets for redundancy.

Quite soon the senior officers and the Executive Council felt compelled to listen to him. From then on his rise was rapid and uninterrupted.

For many years he was denied, purely out of prejudice, the general council of the TUC, but when he finally made it he brought a breath of fresh air into that august but somewhat pedestrian body.

Clive made a notable contribution to the development of the method of electoral organization known as the Reading system, which is now used by most constituency Labour parties. He came to help me in my general election campaigns in Reading in the 1950s, and the new system evolved during those campaigns. His particular

contribution was the innovation, which has now become universal practice, of *ad hoc* drafted letters sent to selected target groups.

The Clive Jenkins I first knew was a fervent non-smoker and teetotaler, and an almost hellfire-and-brimstone scolder of the fleshpots. The first step in his metamorphosis into a gourmet and bon viveur was taken in the late demolished St Stephen's Tavern in Westminster. He and I had gone there with some colleagues from a meeting of the trade union side of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport, and a few pints were being pulled to celebrate a concession we had won from the employers. Clive asked for a lemonade, and I wickedly persuaded him to be a devil and have a lemon-and-bitter shandy. Alas, fate slide quickly down the primrose path.

Aside from his union work Clive was always a highly political animal. In the most difficult periods of post-war Labour history he got together a number of left-leaning trade-union leaders to work in a loose grouping with the Left in Parliament; and later he played a key part in persuading Michael Foot to stand for the leadership of the Labour Party.

Whatever he does in this second life of his, you can be sure that he'll do it differently from anyone else and much better than most.

Ian Mikardo's autobiography *Backbencher* was recently published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95.

OCT 20 ON THIS DAY 1922

A seminal event in the annals of the Conservative party. Lloyd George was succeeded as prime minister by Bonar Law after the Conservative leader, Austen Chamberlain, voted to continue the coalition, which had been in office since 1915.

FALL OF THE COALITION

MR LLOYD GEORGE RESIGNS

The Coalition is broken. The Prime Minister has resigned office. Mr Bonar Law has been asked by the King to form a Ministry and is understood to be reserving his reply pending the selection of a new leader by the Unionist Party.

Should the party elect Mr Bonar Law to be its leader, he may, on well-defined conditions, accept both the Unionist leadership and the task of forming a new Government.

CARLTON CLUB MEETING

The "meeting of the Unionist Party" — as it is described in the official report issued last night — held yesterday at the Carlton Club, took its decision on the following motion, which was carried by a majority of 100: 187 votes to 87:

"That this meeting of Conservative members of the House of Commons declares its opinion that the Conservative Party, whilst willing to cooperate with the Liberals, should fight the election as an independent party, with its own leader, and with its own programme."

From the first it was quite clear that the meeting was against Mr

Chamberlain and in favour of Mr Bonar Law.

Mr Chamberlain spoke for about half an hour. What he said was little else than a recapitulation of those passages in his speech of last Friday which bore upon the maintenance of the Coalition. It was not convincing, and when he asserted that there was no divergence of policy between the two wings of the Government there were protesting cries.

Mr Chamberlain was followed by Mr Stanley Baldwin, who was much more brief. He spoke for about eight minutes, very simply, clearly, and logically. He is not an eloquent speaker but the manner of his delivery was good; he did not hesitate and his sincerity and conviction carried his hearers with him. He dissented from Mr Chamberlain and pointed out that there could be no enthusiasm in the Conservative Party if it were to go to the country without an honest resolve to win.

The Prime Minister had been described as a "Breviary". He had also been described by the Lord Chancellor as a dynamic force. The dynamic qualities of the Prime Minister had already split the Liberal Party, and he was in the course of destroying the Conservative Party. Mr Baldwin took as his example the position of Mr Chamberlain and himself. The effect of the Prime Minister's personality was that Mr Chamberlain was prepared to go into the wilderness rather than forsake Mr Lloyd George, while he (Mr Baldwin) was prepared to go into the wilderness rather than remain with him.

Mr Bonar Law rose. He spoke in a low voice and evidently under the influence of the feeling that it was a painful thing to criticize and differ from his old colleagues in the Cabinet with whom he had been so closely associated.



1, Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

A SQUEEZE ON MURDER

No prospect of a limitation on freedom of expression is likely to make journalists feel enthusiastic. But the enthusiasm of journalists ought not to be the touchstone by which the Home Secretary works. Nor was it yesterday.

Mr Hurd's announcement of notices to the chairman of the BBC and IBA forbidding interviews with representatives of terrorist organisations in Northern Ireland cannot exactly be welcomed. But it can be seen as one more item in the catalogue of freedoms which have been curtailed by terrorism and whose restoration can be guaranteed only by terrorism's defeat.

The intention behind the move, which mirrors Government powers in the Irish Republic, is to impose the minimum restraint upon the work of broadcasters. It aims to separate the necessary and legitimate reporting of news about terrorist organisations from the opportunities for self-promotion which broadcast interviews can offer.

Terrorist spokesmen have become skilled at avoiding prosecution for incitement while enjoying the maximum benefit conferred by their appearance on a respectable broadcasting outlet. That benefit is the incalculable advantage of making themselves appear part of the normal, everyday world. The unthinking viewer or listener can be all too easily swayed into believing that a murder gang is a democratic political organisation.

What spokesmen or supporters actually say in the course of such interviews is secondary in effect to their being in the studio at all. Mr Hurd said yesterday in the House of Commons that terrorist organisations used interviews to "spread an aura of fear". The real use of such interviews is the opposite: to cast a veil of banal, reassuring normality over activities which deserve no such help.

Two main lines of argument are advanced by critics: that this represents indefensible interference with the freedom of expression and that it cannot be enforced. In Mr Roy Hattersley's words, the policy is "repressive and ridiculous" at the same time.

The best evidence of whether this is true is the public life of the Republic of Ireland, whose "Section 31" (of the Broadcasting Act) provides the model for yesterday's text. The views, claims of responsibility for killings, policies and electoral campaigns of Provisional Sinn Féin are reported on television but in general confined to a neutral minimum.

There are frequent and well-publicised rows about borderline cases. It remains unpopular with journalists. It probably contributed to the fall of the Fine Gael-Labour coalition which amended the Act in 1976. But two further things stand out. No government — and it has changed hands frequently in the last dozen years — has repealed the section.

More importantly, the public life of the Republic is low. It is not invisible, but it is lower than it would be

without the law in place. The section is contentious but not ridiculous; it suppresses the direct projection of views — but not news, not the facts.

The British Government needs, however, to be prepared to keep the operation of the clause under careful review. Like most of the realistic additional measures now contemplated against the IRA and its surrogates, this latest move needs to be judged by results. The exemption for election campaigns could, at local level, become an avenue for abuse. The width of discretion given to the Home Secretary is open to misuse.

The international criticism which will be heard can be weathered in the short term. The Government is looking to effect a long-term change in atmosphere and not a sudden "breakthrough". It is said that it would be more logical to proscribe the IRA. It would not be more logical to hand the IRA an indefinite vehicle for ridicule and the diversion of resources when there are no pressing security force arguments for proscription.

In the longer term, the Home Office will need to make clear whether it proposes controls beyond the BBC and IBA for the Cable Authority or for satellite broadcasters. Mr Hurd was not asked about this yesterday but he should address this point when the matter is debated more fully in Parliament. If the Government is encouraging broadcasting plurality and the end of monopolies, broadcasting outlets may one day outnumber newspapers, which also carry interviews with IRA apologists and which remain free to do so.

Does the Home Office base its argument about the special influence and power of television only on the nature of the medium itself or also on the fact that at the moment there is a small oligarchy of suppliers? If it is the former, the control should be made as far as possible to apply to all broadcasting which can be received here. If it is the latter, then at what point does plurality of supply dilute the message sufficiently to make it less threatening?

Yesterday's controls are best seen as part of wider moves to strengthen the Government's hand against the Provisional IRA and Sinn Féin. Moves are in hand or under discussion to bar Sinn Féin candidates from local councils; fresh assaults on their revenues as well as expenditures on spurious community projects are in process.

Mr Harold McCusker asked Mr Hurd if this amounted to an intention to "squeeze Sinn Féin out of the political system". Mr Hurd replied that the question was "paraphrasing boldy" what he had said. The people who can most effectively squeeze Sinn Féin out of the political system are the voters of Northern Ireland, but there is no reason whatever why the Government should not try to squeeze murder out of the democratic processes.

THE WATCHDOG BITES

The public credibility of the City's self-regulation of takeover battles improved suddenly yesterday. The City Takeover Panel took the unprecedented step of suspending a leading financial group from doing some of its business for three months.

The suspension is unlikely to cause any great financial loss to Smith New Court, the firm suspended. It will cover only an extremely narrow range of its activities in takeovers involving its clients — of which there may be none at all in the coming quarter. The financial punishment was meted out last week, when the firm was obliged, at considerable expense, to undo the effect of the deal which breached the City Takeover Code.

Until now, however, the suspicion has always lingered that a regulatory body made up of representatives of those in the business was bound to be soft. Many of the big firms in the City thought that too. The rather technical rule breached by Smith New Court, which is there to stop a financial conglomerate using its role as a market-maker in shares to give an unfair advantage to clients of its broking or banking business in takeover battles, has been breached many times before. As in the Smith New Court case, breaches have almost always stemmed from ignorance of the rules, despite repeated reminders by the panel.

As the takeover boom produced ever richer pickings for the City, the panel had begun to look weak. It was administering a rulebook that had been shot full of loopholes by the pace of development. Its authority over the leading City practitioners had been dissipated, much

in the way that ruling sports bodies lose authority to much wealthier sportsmen.

But yesterday's dramatic action only confirms the changes that have taken place over the past year or so. The rules have been rewritten to cope with the latest tactics. Far more important, strong and skilled personalities have taken charge of the panel's operations.

Its new director general, Mr Anthony Beever, has undoubtedly impressed the City by making a series of sharp, decisive judgements that have shown that City figures will no longer be allowed to manipulate the rules to their advantage over the interests of investors in general. But that might not have counted for much without the authority provided by Lord Alexander, the distinguished barrister who is part-time chairman of the panel and whose thundering written judgements, dictated at speed, alone make City magnates quail.

Yesterday's judgement on Smith New Court clearly carried Lord Alexander's stamp. Its action will undoubtedly harm the firm's reputation in part of its business and will also embarrass one of the City's most famous names, Rothschild, which owns a large stake in Smith New Court.

The takeover rules are, admittedly, highly complex. Understanding them, let alone complying with them, is expensive and time-consuming. But it was the City that chose to have complex rules of conduct rather than suffer damaging legal restrictions on business to protect the investor from abuse. It now has to live with its choice.

and finding the instructions incomprehensible because they were in the form of a wordless strip cartoon? And I for one stand puzzled for a second looking at those human figures on lavatory doors and wondering which is which. But perhaps years of teaching young women in jeans has blurred my perception of gender. I would hate that to happen.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL B. STOLTON
(Convenor, Vocational Committee, Ministries Department, United Reformed Church),
22 Pen Lea Road,
Bath, Avon.

Picture puzzles
From Mr Peter G. New
Sir, Mr David Lumsdon (October 14) urges the use of "international graphics" instead of words on road signs. But he does admit that "symbols alone don't always work". Words can be precise; symbols may be ambiguous.

This is true outside the field of road signs. Have we not had the experience of buying some item

Left speechless
From Mrs Jennie Healy
Sir, Last week I visited a well-known high street shop. I asked the assistant where the sweaters were, she nodded towards a rack. I decided to try on the sweater and the same assistant pointed to the changing room.

Happy with the garment, I took it to the cash desk and tendered the cash. The assistant took the money and put the sweater in a bag — the whole transaction without one word being uttered. Yours faithfully,
JENNIE HEALY,
2 Broadmead Avenue,
Spiny Hill,
Northampton,
October 14.

Compensation for disaster victims

From the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers

Sir, Your article on the Abbeystead explosion (October 10) rightly criticises the process of compensation for this and similar disasters, and points to the need for reform. I would like to draw attention to proposals on this score made by this institution.

The main difficulty is this. Payment in such cases usually requires the plaintiffs to prove negligence against the defendants. Not only is this necessary to establish liability but often the terms of the insurance policies, which provide the main source of compensation, are such that payment will only be made if negligence is established. This has encouraged development of the law, in recent years, so as to favour plaintiffs.

With this, however, has also come a degree of distortion in the law, so much so that one of the Court of Appeal judges in the Abbeystead case observed that "many would wish that the right of recovery did not depend on proof of negligence".

Professional indemnity insurance for those in the construction industry has become increasingly expensive and difficult to obtain on reasonable terms. Indeed, it is easy to envisage disasters in which the funds available from insurance would be inadequate to meet justifiable claims. Another consequence, notable in the USA, has been for firms to go "bare" —

i.e. be uninsured — which may mean that no significant compensation will be available at all.

Moreover, the plaintiff always has to risk that he may not succeed in proving negligence. Even if he is a wholly innocent victim, he may then get nothing and is likely to have to pay costs. Defendants are not necessarily heartless in these matters as the article seems to suggest. The law and its adversarial nature are such that business survival may depend on the outcome and, in any event, the decision whether or not to fight the case may, reasonably enough, be that of insurers.

The Government has set up working parties to consider proposals. Among those recommended for the construction industry by this institution is a scheme for no-fault compensation for death or injury for cases such as Abbeystead. New Zealand and Sweden operate such schemes.

The scheme would be funded nationally, though not from general taxation, and a degree of subrogation would apply against those responsible. Adequate resources could be ensured and victims and dependants would be compensated without the need to prove negligence, so avoiding the uncertain and unfair situation to which the article draws attention. Yours etc.

BILL FRANCIS, President,
Institution of Civil Engineers,
Great George Street, SW1,
October 14.

Windsor files

From the Reverend Professor Emeritus W. H. C. Friend, FBA

Sir, From March, 1947, until October, 1951, I served on the British team editing the German Foreign Ministry documents (Professor Watt's letter, October 15). Among the files I worked on was that relating to Anglo-German relations in 1936, containing documents relating to Edward VIII's reported strong inclination towards Anglo-German friendship.

Edward VIII's views at that period seemed to foreshadow those indicated in other documents dating to July, 1940, when German agents in Spain and Portugal tried unsuccessfully to persuade him not to take up the Governorship of the Bahamas. These had been treated as "top secret", and when the Foreign Office Librarian, E. J. Passant, handed me an envelope containing them for my views, I believe towards the end of 1948, he made clear that for the time being these were for the eyes of the British team alone.

Of course, this attempt at secrecy, even in regard to our American and French colleagues, broke down pretty quickly. The documents eventually published in volume X of series D of the German Foreign Ministry documents indicate that the Duke behaved with propriety in what suddenly had become a difficult situation for him.

Volume X did not appear until August, 1957. By that time assessment of events of nearly 20 years before could be left to historians. Yours faithfully,
W. H. C. FRIEND,
The Rectory, Barnwell,
Peterborough,
Cambridgeshire,
October 15.

A chance to live

From Mr and Mrs R. W. Butler

Sir, So, the Rev J. Mitchell-Innes (October 15) does not consider a Down's child to be a burden to its parents. Of course a Down's child is a burden to any family, but in most will be loved and cared for as much as any "normal" child.

Far from living in a "technological Reich", a Down's child can live in a technological wonderland. Our seven-year-old has jetted to and from Sierra Leone in the last few years (not at our expense, I may add), climbed in and out of helicopters, bashed about in Land Rovers and plays on her brothers' computer.

Wherever she goes she engenders love and affection, equally in West Africa and amongst her fellow students and teachers at her local primary school. There one sees the way in which today's young accept and help their handicapped brethren — a truly heart-warming turnaround from the 1950s and 60s.

As to Mr Mitchell-Innes's question as to why we should be "so keen to be rid of" these children, only the parents of a handicapped child can knowledgeably answer, and that must surely remain in their souls.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. BUTLER,
ELISABETH BUTLER,
Brackenfell, Kingwood Common,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire,
October 16.

Supply teaching

From Mrs Elizabeth Arnold-Davies

Sir, Don Hurley (October 11) was right to draw attention to the regrettable way in which Dorset County Council gives its supply teachers. When giving evidence to the interim advisory committee on teachers' pay and conditions last year the Professional Association of Teachers laid great emphasis on the proper treatment of supply teachers.

Supply teaching is not a soft option. The proper implementation of the national curriculum Act will in no small measure depend not only on properly paid supply staff, but also on proper systems to cater for necessary teacher absences and to ensure that pupils are not simply childminded by harassed and undervalued supply teachers. Unless teachers, parents and governing bodies of schools are able to get Dorset to see reason, the education of pupils in that county will suffer.

We will be pressing the interim advisory committee (and Mr Kenneth Baker) again on these issues for the 1989 settlement, but it must be said that there is

US elections

From Mr William Curran

Sir, With all the coverage of the US election debates one point in particular seems to have been missed: the relevance of the issues for Americans living abroad and for our friends in this country. Here are just three facts in areas of special concern.

Foreign policy: on September 12, 1988, Zbigniew Brzezinski, former-President Carter's head of National Security, joined the Bush team, because he believes Governor Dukakis's foreign policies are inconsistent with the best interests of the United States and the free world.

Economic policy: on September 28, 1988, the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives passed Bill HR 5410, the "Textile and Apparel Trade Act", placing quotas on the importation of textiles and shoes. Bush would veto this Bill. Dukakis would not. Most thoughtful Americans believe that US protectionism, coinciding with a single European

Satellite systems

From Sir Antony Part

Sir, A public controversy is raging between British Satellite Broadcasting and Mr Alan Sugar, of Amstrad, working with Mr Rupert Murdoch on the Sky Television project about the technical transmission standard (PAL or MAC) to be used for satellite broadcasting.

This subject was investigated in depth in 1982 by an advisory panel under my chairmanship, set up by the Home Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Our investigation included a unique side-by-side demonstration of the two systems. We concluded unanimously that MAC (of which D-MAC is a refinement) was observably better than PAL at the time and had definitely better potential for development, including moves towards higher-definition television. We also noted that it was unanimously preferred by the manufacturers and that it was the only possible candidate (the French system SECAM included) for a Europe-wide standard.

Highway hypnosis

From Dr Edward Smyth

Sir, Mr P. H. J. Whyman describes (October 1) the hypnotic effect created by the monotony and tedium of prolonged driving. Whilst living in Canada I had as a patient a long-distance truck driver who told me that he often slept at the wheel while continuing to drive, with, of course, his eyes open and his reflexes controlling his vehicle in the accustomed way.

I did not doubt the truth of his

Long way round

From Mrs Jean Pike

Sir, Mr Fell (October 10) sensibly suggests that warning signs on roads should be brief, preferably "one worders". A sign outside our house reads not *Achtung!* or *Vorsicht!* but *Unfallschwerpunkte!* (Accident black spot).

Oh dear! Perhaps the old adage that a picture is worth not just several, but a thousand words, is the best answer for us all. Yours faithfully,

JEAN PIKE,
Hoppensdell Haus,
3103 Lohheide, West Germany.

Vision of new role for the North

From Councillor Leslie Scott

Sir, Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish Secretary, suggested at Brighton last week, in a Conservative Political Centre lecture, that a further decentralisation of the "machinery and power of Government" could be used as a tool for regional regeneration. This is a welcome contribution to the regional policy debate.

Reservations about the success of industrial relocation policies promoted by successive governments in post-war years have allowed the separate issue of the decentralisation of Whitehall to slip off the agenda.

Many well-known companies came to the North-east in the fifties, sixties and early seventies, encouraged by Government aid. Few remain, but the products of the Civil Service devolution remain and continue to provide much-needed clerical jobs, helping to balance the local economy.

The purchasing power generated from the child-benefit centre at Washington, National Savings at Durham, and the Department of Social Security's pensions complex at Longbenton, Newcastle upon Tyne, outweighs many a Nissan.

The massive concentration of administrative and clerical functions in and around the capital can never be justified. The communication revolution further weakens any arguments against the economics of dispersal.

A new dispersal policy would face opposition from those who want to stay "south of Watford". They have had their successes in the past.

I work in Newcastle, am paid from our head office in London, yet my tax district, London Provincial No 9, is based in Southampton. I am sure the Inland Revenue would find recruitment a lot easier in Geordieland than it does down television's *Howards' Way*.

The Government has available the power to regenerate regional economies without compromising its economic philosophy. The job-creating capacity of the North-east is incapable of creating the number of jobs needed. A Government input, albeit non-industrial, is required in addition to private manufacturing capital.

Has the Government the will to take on the career Civil Servants with their vested interests in remaining within their empires within commuting distance of London? Have they the vision to see a new role for the North as the administrative hub of the State? Maybe Mr Rifkind is just ahead of his time.

Yours etc.,
LESLIE SCOTT,
13 Parkside,
East Herrington,
Sunderland,
Tyne and Wear,
October 17.

Blood supplies

From Dr Gerald Smith

Sir, Any attempt to prevent the periodic shortfalls in blood supplies (Mr R. Everson's letter, October 14) must avoid unacceptable excesses of this precious but perishable commodity. Striking the right balance is essential.

A small increase in the number of blood donations collected, together with the better coordination and distribution of supplies between the regions of the National Blood Transfusion Service, as envisaged by the new Blood Transfusion Directorate, could well resolve the vagaries of local blood supply and demand.

An alternative way of easing the problem, which is not generally known, is for certain patients due for planned operations to use their own ("autologous") blood. Not only is it possible for several units of autologous blood to be collected in advance, but also for blood shed at operation to be salvaged and processed rapidly by machines for reinfusion to the patient.

These approaches to blood support have been practised for many years in the United States and several European countries and are now being used in a few hospitals in Britain.

The use of autologous blood brings additional benefits: there is no risk of adverse reactions, or of the transmission of blood-borne infections.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD SMITH
(Consultant haematologist),
Blood Transfusion Unit,
Guy's Hospital, SE1,
October 19.

Soldiers in Ulster

From Mr Raymond Blackburn

Sir, It is dreadful that 18-year-old soldiers should be killed and being killed in Northern Ireland. The task of the Army there is exceedingly difficult and calls for greater discipline and wisdom than conventional warfare.

This was an issue in 1951 when I asked Attlee to stop youths of 18 going into battle in Korea. Churchill supported me and Attlee ordered that no one under the age of 19 should go into battle.

May I, please, repeat the plea I made 37 years ago?
Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND BLACKBURN,
50 Homefield Road,
Chiswick, W4,
October 14.

Active citizens

From the Rector of St Botolph's, Aldgate

Sir, We hear much today of the valuable partnership between voluntary and statutory bodies in combating social evils. May I have a new partner please?

As a voluntary, charitable project the Government is about to charge us some £30,000 VAT for extending our premises so that we can better care for the 200-300 homeless men and women who come to us each weekday. Until last April our listed building was exempt from this tax but now no longer.

This is no encouragement to our devoted staff and volunteers and must surely deter our benefactors who presumably have no wish to make donations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM JOHNSON, Rector,
St Botolph's Vestry,
Aldgate, EC3,
October 14.

From Mrs Mary Purves

Sir, As the Prime Minister exhorts us to become exemplary citizens with a duty to one another I am reminded of my father's favourite gramophone record in the 1920s when the "Vicar of Dibley" in his sermon said: "We are here on earth to help others... but what the others are here for, the Lord only knows!" Yours etc.

MARY PURVES,
Park Lane Cottage West,
Gardner Road,
Southwold, Suffolk,
October 14.

Call of the cloth

From the Rev Michael Stollon

Sir, I would like to refer to the recent correspondence in your columns (September 22, October 10) about the decline in the number of candidates for the stipendiary ministry in the Church of England.

Fortunately this situation does not apply in all our major denominations. The United Reformed Church has seen an encouraging increase during the past two or three years in those offering for both stipendiary and auxiliary (non-stipendiary) ministry. Since 1984 there has been an overall increase of 54 per cent in the total number of stipendiary candidates in training; a 13 per cent increase in the past year alone and a 25 per cent increase in the number of candidates currently having been accepted.

Alongside these encouraging figures is a steady intake into our auxiliary ministry training schemes and recruitment to the recently introduced concept of Church-related community workers, so that, for the first time in some years, there are signs of real growth in recruitment patterns.

It is not easy to quantify the reasons for this increase but it has become apparent that the sense of vocation to ministry in the widest



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 19: The Prince Edward attended a concert this evening given by the London Mozart Players at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1.
Captain William McLean was in attendance.
By command of The Queen, the Viscount Long (Lord in Waiting) was present at Gatwick Airport, London this evening upon the departure of the Governor-General of Solomon Islands and Lady Leppin, and bade farewell to their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.
The Princess Royal, immediate Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Carmen, this morning attended an installation service at St. Michael Paternoster Royal followed by a Court Luncheon. Painter's Hall, London, EC4, Master, Alderman Sir Christopher Leaver.
Her Royal Highness, Chancellor of the University of London, this afternoon visited Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, SW7 to mark the merger of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School and Imperial College and was received by a representative of the Vice-Chancellor (Professor T. Clark).
The Princess Royal, President of the Save the Children Fund, afterwards attended a Reception at the Milner House, Blackfriars, London, EC4, for volunteers who assisted the Comic Relief Appeal and was received by the Chairman of the Save the

Luncheons and dinners

Wessex Cancer Trust
Lord and Lady Ramsey, Joint Presidents of the Wessex Cancer Trust, were the hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at the Cheltenham Hotel, Paul Jackson conducted an auction and Mr Leslie Thomas also spoke.
Trinity House
The Lord Mayor was represented by Alderman Dame Mary Donaldson at the annual civic luncheon given by the Elder Brethren of Trinity House at Cheltenham Hotel, Paul Jackson conducted an auction and Mr Leslie Thomas also spoke.
The Lord Mayor was represented by Alderman Dame Mary Donaldson at the annual civic luncheon given by the Elder Brethren of Trinity House at Cheltenham Hotel, Paul Jackson conducted an auction and Mr Leslie Thomas also spoke.
Migrants Trust
Princess Margaret, Patron of the Migrants Trust, attended a dinner held last night at Leeds Castle, Kent, on the occasion of a Migrant Workshop organized by the trust. Lord Aldington, Chairman of the Leeds Castle Foundation, and Professor Merton Sandler, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Migrant Trust, were the hosts. Dr F Clifford Rose, chairman, was among others present.
Bowyers' Company
Mr Robert Hardy, Master of the

National Gallery

The Director of the National Gallery, Mr Neil MacGregor, and the Chairman of Esso, Sir Archibald Forster, were joint hosts at a reception and private viewing of the newly opened exhibition "Art in the Making: Rembrandt", held at the National Gallery, last night. The Minister for Arts, the Right Hon. Richard Luce, MP, was guest of honour. The exhibition is sponsored by Esso.

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Terence Moore, TLS February 12 1988

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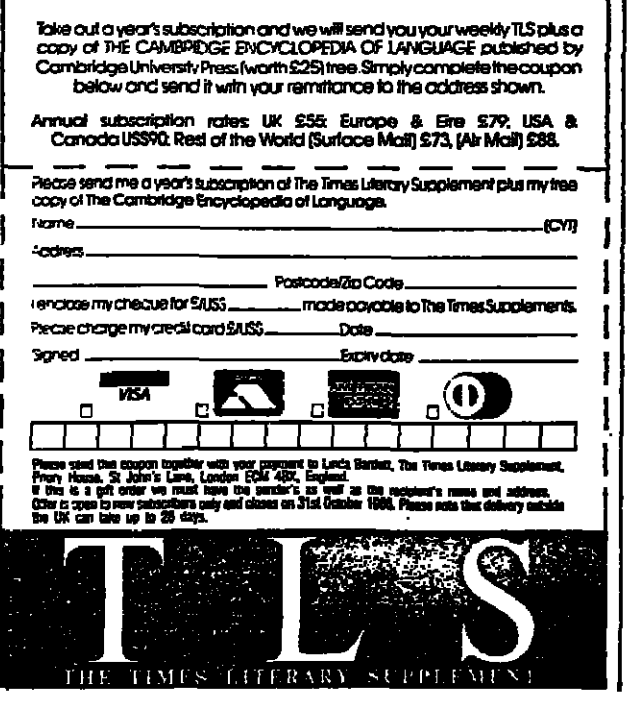
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Balance by breast-feeding

The influence of Western culture on developing countries may be doing more to promote population growth than to control it, and could cause a serious increase in child and maternal mortality.

A report in the current issue of *Nature* describes the effects of the trend away from breast-feeding, or lactation, a trend usually associated with developed countries, but now beginning to filter through into those less developed. Because lactation decreases the risk of infant mortality, this increases fertility and with it the risks to mother and baby which come from short intervals between births.

The report puts figures on a phenomenon that has been known since the time of Aristotle. But the scale of the contraceptive effect of lactation will surprise health workers and policy makers alike. Shyam Dasgupta, a medical officer of Family Health International (a charity based in the United States which promotes fertility control and health care) with Roger Shoh of Monash University, Australia, have quantified the contraceptive effect of lactation and come up with startling results.

In Africa, lactation inhibits an average of 5.5 births per woman; in Asia the figure is on average only slightly less. But in Bangladesh, for example, each woman would have 6 or 7 more children if she ceased lactating. In some countries the increase in contraceptive use would have to be doubled or tripled simply to offset declines in lactation. The figures come from an analysis of data from the 1974-1984 World Fertility Survey, the largest social survey ever undertaken. This reached about 150,000

Forthcoming marriages

Mr L.C. Lonsdale
and Miss L.M. Dillon
The engagement is announced between Mr L.C. Lonsdale, son of Mr and Mrs M.G. Lonsdale, of Hutton Mount, Essex, and Iris, daughter of the late Dr Frohman and Mrs Lonsdale, of Frankfurt, Germany.
The engagement is announced between Mr J.W. McDonald and Miss K.D.A. Whitelaw. The engagement is announced between John William, elder son of the late Mr and Mrs J.W. McDonald, OBE, and of Mrs J.W. McDonald, of Huntingfield, Suffolk, and Katharine, daughter of the late Mr Gavin Whitelaw, of Mrs D.N. Whitelaw, of Johannesburg.

Marriages

Mr P. Jupp
and Mrs C. Hollingsworth
The marriage took place quietly on Friday, October 14, in the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul, London, between Mr P. Jupp, son of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath, and Mrs C. Hollingsworth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath.

Mr C.P. Lawrence
and Miss J.M. Harwood
The marriage took place on October 13, in Norwich, of Mr C.P. Lawrence, second son of the late Mr Quentin Lawrence, and of Mrs Margaret Lawrence, of Salisbury, and Miss Judith Harwood, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.L. Senior, of Salisbury.

Mr R.L. Senior
and Miss C.J. Jennings
The marriage took place on October 1, at All Saints Church, Hampton, of Mr R.L. Senior, son of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath, and Miss C.J. Jennings, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath.

Mr J.J. Dials
and Miss J.S. Capewell
The engagement is announced between Mr J.J. Dials, son of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath, and Miss J.S. Capewell, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath.

Mr J.A. Hyslop
and Miss F.A. Carey
The engagement is announced between Mr J.A. Hyslop, son of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath, and Miss F.A. Carey, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jupp, of Bath.

Birthdays today

Sir James Galloway, chairman, West Midlands Regional Health Authority, 53; Mr Hume Boggs, former deputy secretary, Lord Chancellor's Office, 77; Sir Edwin Bolland, diplomat, 66; the Right Rev Stanley Booth-Clibborn, Bishop of Manchester, 64; Major-General T. Brodie, 65; Sir David Higgs, former chairman, Economic and Social Research Council, 62; Mr Eddie Macken, showjumper, 69; Mr J.G. Milne, Lord Lieutenant Dumfries and Galloway, 72; Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 77; Mr Ian Rust, footballer, 27; Professor S.B. Saul, vice-chancellor, York University, 64; Sir William Shapland, chartered accountant, 59; Sir Alexander Siddons, diplomat, 62; the Hon Emma Tennant, writer, 51; Sir Ian Trethowan, chairman, Thames Television, 60; Mr Timothy West, actor, 54.

Mr Justice Hazan

A memorial service for Mr Justice Hazan will be held in Lincoln's Inn Chapel on Thursday, December 1, 1988, at 5pm.

Thanksgiving

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Professor Charles Hazan will be held at the University Church of Christ the King, Gordon Square, London, WC1, on Friday, December 2, 1988, at noon. Would those please to attend the service please notify Miss M. Grenville, University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT.

OBITUARIES

MARY MORRIS

The power of frightening command on screen and stage

Mary Morris, the actress, died of heart failure on October 14, at Aigle in Switzerland. She was 72. Her career began in the theatre, when she formed her own company in Surrey in 1936 after leaving RADA. But she was soon spotted by Sir Alexander Korda and moved into films and later television.

Her most important work in the theatre, sustaining a bold creative independence, came when she was approaching 40. She will be remembered especially as Elizabeth Tudor in *The Young Elizabeth* at the New in 1952. She showed here the making of a Queen, a woman carrying Elizabeth's resolve in her eye and in her bearing.

Two years later at the Arts and then at the St James's she brought quite uncannily to life the Stepmother in *Pirandello's Six Characters in Search of an Author*. The following summer, back at the Arts again, she was a redoubtable and commanding Lavinia in *Mourning Becomes Electra*, O'Neill's variation on the tragedy of the house of Atreus.

Mary Morris was born in the Fiji Islands in 1915, but she was educated in England at The Priory, Haywards Heath. She gave notice of her intended career when she made her first appearance on stage as a 16-year-old in *Barbed Wire*. By the time she was 20 she had landed a small part in *Lysistrata* at the Gate Theatre during its days in Villiers St.

The adult Morris was a remarkably independent figure, slight and dark, high cheekbones with large wide eyes and voice that could be surprisingly deep. In her early sixties she was still saying that her favourite parts were Saint Joan, Cleopatra and Juliet: what they had in common was that no professional management gave Mary Morris the chance of acting them on stage in Britain.

If the parts she was offered had any quality of dramatic strangeness then she could dominate the stage. You did not look to Mary Morris for the light comedy. Before those successes of the '50s she had made a name in Massfield's *The Witch* (1944), based on a Scandinavian drama, and in another play which dabbled with the supernatural, *Duet for Two Hands*. When someone had the idea of casting her as Peter Pan (1946) she made J.M. Barrie quite frightening.

Her film career had begun in 1938 with *Prison Without Walls*.

In *Claws*, BBC1 last year

She appeared under the pseudonym of Michael Powell's direction in *The Spy in Black* (as a Nazi chauffeur) and *The Thief of Bagdad*, in which she was the slave girl.

Among her other films were *Pimpernel Smith* - a version of the Scarlet Pimpernel story set in Nazi-occupied Europe in which she played opposite Leslie Howard - *Major Barbara* and *Train of Events*.

In his autobiography Powell describes her as a most unusual personality with an extraordinary sense of humour. "She was small, compact, agile, black-haired, large-eyed and she had high cheek bones and Asiatic looks."

During the Second World War she suggested to Powell that he make a film of Rumer Godden's novel, *Bumer Nardis*, and proposed that she

play the young nun, Sister Ruth. The film was eventually made in 1947, and is one of Powell's finest, but the part of Sister Ruth went to another actress.

She made many television appearances, especially in high class drama, among them *A Family Reunion*, *The Prisoner* and *Anna Karenina*. And it was television which allowed her to play one of those parts she craved, Cleopatra, under Peter Dewar's direction. Fortunately there are three Morris performances in plays still awaiting transmission.

These may serve as a reminder of an energetic, instantly recognisable actress who was once quite likely to arrive at the front door in silver moon suit and flying helmet after parking her motorbike.

MICHAEL FOLKES

The cartoonist as artist



"Saved us a fortune in trick photography" - From *Pick of Punch*

Michael folkes, the cartoonist and illustrator whose work appeared notably for many years in *Punch*, died on October 18, aged 63.

In the world of cartooning where a funny idea can be delivered through a rudimentary pictogram, folkes was one of that rare breed whose drawings are aesthetically attractive with an added claim to be works of art in themselves.

He arrived on the cartoon scene as part of that post-war generation of aspiring humorous artists, which at that time were particularly influenced by the work of André Françoise, Ronald Searle and Steinberg. folkes was a Steinberg disciple but he quickly developed his own unique characteristics and before long had established himself as a regular contributor to *Punch*.

His draughtsmanship was elegant and autographic and very stylish, and his cartoon ideas too had a similar elegance and obliqueness.

His approach to the business was not through social comment on today's events or the simple red-nose guffaw - the subject areas he covered were historical events, mythology and literature, and an anthropomorphic angle of the behaviour of the animal kingdom.

An early cartoon depicts a Noah's Ark sailing past another Ark which is crammed with pairs of mythical creatures - centaurs, unicorns, griffons and such - with Noah remarking: "Personally, I don't think she's seaworthy."

Michael folkes could handle colour beautifully, too, in his full-page for *Punch* and *Playboy*, demonstrating that he was a very refined colour sense, a natural attribute rather than one derived from his art school training as a painter.

He always thought of himself primarily as a *Punch* artist (apart from his cartoons he drew the weekly caricatures on the Film Review page) but his output included book illustrations, film tiding, and work for *Private Eye*, *Reader's Digest*, and regular decorations for the *Daily Telegraph* Way of the World column.

folkes himself avowed that he was not really in tune with this century, that he would be far more comfortable living in Restoration London; a token of his feeling that way was his decision early in his career to change his name from Brian Davis to the much more flamboyant and memorable Michael folkes.

It is not surprising, therefore, that he was extremely pleased when an American admirer wrote to him: "Mr folkes, may I tell you that your drawing seems to be full of fun and butterflies."

folkes, a Londoner, was the son of a commercial artist and educated at Leigh Hall College, Essex, and St Martin's School of Art. He served in the Royal Navy during the Second World War and then went on to continue studying at the Chelsea School. By 1949 he was already contributing frequently in book form, with characteristically witty titles.

DR AHARON RODSTEIN

Agricultural pioneer
Aharon Rodstein, one of Israel's noted pioneer agronomists, has died aged 83.

Rodstein was best known for founding in the 1940s the Ruminant Institute of Agriculture - Arthur Ruppin, after whom it was named, was an economist and sociologist known as "the Father of the Land of Israel Settlement."

Under Rodstein's guidance the institute, with its advanced irrigation techniques and modern methods achieved international renown, attracted many overseas students, mostly from Asian and African countries, thus playing a major role helping with the agricultural development of the Third World.

Rodstein was born in Riga, Latvia, and as a member of the Zionist youth pioneer movement first went to the then Palestine in 1924.

He worked for a time on road construction and helped to build a water supply reservoir.

Illness, however, obliged him to return to Latvia after three years.

He went to study at Nancy University in France where he graduated in 1936 as an agricultural engineer. He returned to Palestine where he undertook further agricultural studies at the Haifa Institute of Technology.

With his two brothers and his wife, Gusta, he founded the settlement of Ashdot Ya'acov, named after Mr James (Ya'acov) de Rothschild, then president of the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association on whose land it was built.

The settlement was near the confluence of the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers and the abundant water supply was harnessed to the development of the Rutenberg hydroelectric power station which became the major source of electricity for the area.

Rodstein helped with this development, but his major efforts were directed towards developing a highly intensive farming programme in one of the largest collective settlements in the country.

Rodstein's expertise and experience was sought by many European countries. He was a visiting lecturer at various universities notably Reading University in Britain, with which he had a close association for many years, as well as in Denmark, Holland and France.

On his retirement in 1970 Rodstein enrolled as a student at the Tel Aviv Arts Academy where he showed a natural ability for wood carving and painting. He exhibited his works in one-man shows.

THE ARTS

David Robinson applauds the latest and best of the generation-switch comedies and a magical mystery film from Mali

Kids' stuff can be grown-up fun

Movies are the mythology of our times, and a prevalent new myth is the magical return to days of innocence and inexperience. It takes no subtlety to read this as a communal yearning for escape from the challenges of an uneasy present. The hero of *Back to the Future* was transported to his parents' teenage years. In *Peggy Sue Got Married* the heroine returned to her own schooldays. *Vice Versa* and *Like Father, Like Son* saw fathers and sons switch roles; *18 Again* had a grandfather and grandson.

In *Big* the child successfully wishes himself a man; but the effect is the same: the anxieties and aggressions of the adult world are shown up by the guileless happiness of childhood. Josh — 12, short and with a crush on a tall girl — wishes he could be big. A carnival wishing machine proves unexpectedly effective; and he wakes next morning as a hairy, full-grown 35-year-old. His frightened mother turns this stranger out of the house, and only his best friend Billy believes and helps him.

Josh and Billy cope with grown-up problems like hotel rooms, jobs, pay packets and banks. Employed by a toy firm, Josh's grass-roots grasp of the product rapidly earns him promotion. He accepts the attempted seductions of a female colleague as simple chumminess.

The charm and uncompromised truth of the hero's 12-year-old personality is tribute to the wit of the script by Anne Spielberg and Gary Rose and the light elegance of Penny Marshall's debutante direction, but above all to Tom Hanks's performance. He enters totally into the 12-year-old mind. His outbursts of untamed boyish enthusiasm and his scenes with Billy (Jared Rushton), larking about or savouring orgies of junk food, are never forced or knowing.

Magic has become commonplace in films of the Eighties, with a consequent boom in the special effects business. In no western film, though, is the presence of magic so potent, or the special effects so little in evidence, as in *Yeelen*, written and

CINEMA

Big (PG)

Odeon West End

Yeelen (PG)

Renoir

The House on Carroll Street (PG)

Cannons Haymarket, Tottenham Court Road

The Fruit Machine (15)

Cannons Haymarket, Tottenham Court Road

The Dawning (PG)

Odeon Haymarket

Alice

ICA

directed by the Mali director Souleymane Cissé and the most sophisticated and mysteriously fascinating film to come out of Black Africa to date.

A young man sets out on a journey of initiation, to learn the secrets of the magic of his people. Meanwhile his father, a powerful but malevolent witch, plans to kill him before he can compete with his own magic. The French cameramen, Jean-Noël Ferragut and Jean-Michel Humeau, capture the dream-like landscapes, the African light and above all the omnipresence of a powerful magic, that climaxes in the final duel of spells between father and son. Issiaka Kane, who plays

the hero, is a figure of dazzling charisma that would make him a star in any country or culture.

Peter Yates's *The House on Carroll Street* is on the surface a watchable if not very credible pulp thriller. Underlying the story, though, are bitter implications about American politics in the Cold War era, that evidently come from the screenwriter, Walter Bernstein, a notable victim of the blacklist.

The heroine (Kelly McGillis, a *gauche* actress), with the help of a mildly maverick FBI agent (Jeff Daniels), uncovers a network of illegal immigration of Nazi criminals, condoned and covered up by the FBI, the Immigration Service and McCarthyist senators. It may not be news, but it is novel to find it the stuff of a popular thriller.

The Fruit Machine is a surprisingly successful collaboration between Frank Clark, the idiosyncratic writer of *Letter to Brezhnev*, and the veteran director-of-all-work Philip Saville. Saville has interpreted Clark's off-beat, off-the-wall comic fantasy with creditable respect and sympathy. The film tells the story of Eddie (Emile Charles), a Liverpool 16-year-old whose white mum feeds him fantasies about showbusiness, while his black dad knocks him about in the vain hope of turning him into a real man and heterosexual.

Eddie and his best mate Michael (Tony Forsyth) witness the killing of a transvestite club owner (gruff Robbie Coltrane in delectably improbable casting); and themselves become quarry for the killer. Drifting south they find shelter with an ageing opera singer (Robert Stephens).

From the comic realism of the opening the film meanders into fantasy and a high tragic-romantic climax. Even when it wavers, the film is always carried along by the funny, sweetly innocent performances of the two 16-year-olds, who even upstage Robert Stephens.

The Dawning is a first feature by television director Robert Knights. It is literary-wordy (adapted from a novel by Jennifer Johnston), boasts exemplary

Natural larking about: Tom Hanks (left) and Jared Rushton as 12-year-olds in *Big*

performances (Anthony Hopkins, Jean Simmons, the lamented Trevor Howard) and the wide-eyed and radiant Rebecca Pidgeon) and has a tendency to sacrifice story to Sensitivity — characteristically signalled by rushing about on the sea shore to an excess of swelling orchestral music.

The story is set in Ireland during the troubles of 1920; and the dawning of awareness comes to orphaned, 18-year-old Nancy (Pidgeon) after she meets a mysterious fugitive (Hopkins) on the shore. Seeing him as a substitute father, she is confused and hurt when she discovers he is an IRA terrorist. Nancy's stoicism and resilience in the face of the

appalling climactic events are hard to credit.

Jan Svankmajer, a gifted and decidedly adult Czech animator, has married his own surrealist vision to that of Lewis Carroll in his first feature-length film *Alice* — a co-production between Film Four and Swiss and German television. This is not *Alice for infants*. Svankmajer explores the darker side of Alice's dreams, which are peopled by animated skeletons of birds and reptiles, and socks that turn into snakes and burrow through the woodwork. The mumbling White Rabbit bleeds sawdust stuffing. The shade of Kafka looms alongside that of Freud.

TELEVISION

Prince Charles would have loved *Antenna* (BBC2), in which a smart young man in a white car did a lightning tour of the City of London, flashing past the Lloyd's building and wondering how these great modernist landmarks would one day be demolished. Gone are the days of good old-fashioned explosion (see film of buildings being exploded). Now you have to disassemble buildings bit by bit, some from the bottom up, some from the middle outwards.

It was a neat and entertaining piece of television, which reinforced the prejudice that modernist architecture is not only brutal but is also difficult to remove. Presumably the idea of post-modern buildings is that you only have to blow heavily on them and they collapse.

Antenna is a magazine programme about science, rubbing shoulders incongruously. All three items last night ought to have been longer to make their points properly, and all had editorial problems. In the architecture item, a section about the removal of offshore oil rigs made awkward references to Piper Alpha, a subject too recent to be treated as mere science. An item about the use of chimpanzees in AIDS research — should they become a protected species in order to reduce their use in testing AIDS vaccines? — was unfairly biased: it used almost continuous pictures of sweet chimps trotting around the jungle and not a single picture of a dying AIDS victim.

Finally, there was Professor Colin Renfrew, one of Cambridge's best brains, attempting to cram a new theory about the spread of languages around Europe into 20 minutes.

William Holmes



Heroine, tart, husband: Gillian Sullivan (left) as Rosalinde, Amy Burton as Adele, Robin Leggate as Gabriel

Persuasive, witty update

Die Fledermaus
Theatre Royal, Glasgow

Even before the curtain went up on Scottish Opera's new *Fledermaus*, a portion of the audience seemed quite convinced by the publicity that Johann Strauss's operetta was really set in yuppie Glasgow. Forget all that business about Vienna a century and a little more ago; forget the dance rhythms of the time — a little strobe lighting and some skirt adjusting sharply upwards will take care of that. Turn Gabriel Eisenstein into a broker nickered for insider dealing and Falke into a William Hickey, and there are the makings of a contemporary Glaswegian comedy. After all, it is only 40 years since *Fledermaus* in English was called *Gay Rosalinda*, and you cannot do that any more.

Scottish Opera's mildly outrageous updating, which also happens to be more fully crammed with local references than Billy Connolly on a Saturday night, comes very close to working. This is mainly due to the translation

OPERA

and lyrics by Kit Hesketh-Harvey — as he is one half of the cabaret act of Kit and the Widow he will presumably now turn his attention to *Die lustige Witwe*. Not all his verbal jokes, and they come in machine-gun bursts, are yet either audible or properly pointed, but he has a natural talent for putting a light step into what can all too often be a plodding text, especially out of the vernacular. It takes a bit of courage to translate Orlofsky's "Im Feuerstrom der Reben" as "Let's raise a glass to *glasnost*". It even scans.

But Harvey gets away with it, abetted by Simon Callow's staging. It could have done with a few weeks on the road to find out which gags work and which do not, but such luxuries are not allowed to opera. Callow, in his first venture into operetta in Britain, at least makes *Fledermaus* funnier as it progresses (with a notable punk Frosch, straight from the Gorbals, from Graham de Banzie).

Dramatically and visually — Bruno Santini provides three ironic sets including a touch of "prison brutal" — this is a hard-edged *Fledermaus*. Vocally it is less sure. Robin Leggate seems too nice a man to live in the financial fast lane as Eisenstein, although he displays an easy tenor in what used to be a high baritone role. Gillian Sullivan lacks polish as Rosalinde. Callow appears an extrovert director looking for outside performances and he will be far happier with Amy Burton's tart Adele and Justin Lavender's happy Alfred, who is more likely to burst into *Show Boat* than *Die Walküre*. Omar Ebrahim's Orlofsky is a misjudgement.

Jacek Kasprzyk began roughly as though he were conducting a brass band rather than an orchestra. But he improved, as indeed will this witty *Fledermaus*, which has all the potential for a popular success. It would bring more joy to the Old Vic at the turn of the year than Scottish Opera's *Candide*, which is booked in.

John Higgins

Small-time loser's disappointments

THEATRE

Budgie
Cambridge Theatre

It all depends what you want from a musical. There are Sixties hair-do's on the Cambridge stage, and fab gear sported by the Soho tarts and petty crooks who give Adam Faith's eponymous hero such a tough time. But in all probability you are hoping for that elusive mix of book, lyrics, music and performance all pulling together for victory, and in this case, as you will have guessed by now, there is disappointment in store.

The seedy, falsely glittering Soho in which *Budgie* Bird seems to pass his entire existence could perhaps take to the stage in other circumstances, although the squalor of the courts and alleys, strip clubs and pornography bookshops is unrelieved. Their claustrophobic presence is vividly captured in Saul Radomsky's set: a maze of brick walls and neon sex.

What stops the show from ever taking off is the feeble character of *Budgie* himself and the soppy stay-at-home Hazel (Anita Dobson) who loves him in spite of everything — what a cliché! She walks out on him time and again, only to return with a winsome smile when another of his hopeful schemes has foundered.

I cannot say what the television *Budgie* was like, 18 years ago, but on the stage he is a small-time loser dreaming of the big time. "Why not me?" he sings and it is the refrain throughout. When a

fortune in stolen notes drops into his hands he at once starts frittering it away on gee-gees and handouts to winos, advertising his new-found wealth to corrupt cops, hard bosses and the psychopathic knifeman who wants his money back. It is all very well for *Budgie* to lean on a dustbin and sing "I must leave Old Compton Street", he seems to believe there is no life north of Oxford Street, or south of Shaftesbury Avenue, for that matter.

Faith has a pleasingly light singing voice, a certain rascallion charm and the interesting look of a man who has inhabited his face through some rough decades; but he behaves so stupidly there is no way we are going to care a fig for him. Still less for winsome Hazel. The book is by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall.

Mort Shuman (music) and Don Black (lyrics) have impressive track records but their numbers here are unremarkable. They write arios for strippers, love songs and all the expected routines, but all I am likely to remember is one engaging couplet: "I'd like to sprinkle Malcolm/From head to toe with talcum." This is not much to carry away.

Jeremy Kingston

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Concert of absences

RLPO/Weller
Festival Hall

CONCERT

This was a concert of absences. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, who should have been there to sing Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder* and receive the gold medal of the Royal Philharmonic Society, was kept away by flu and had his place taken by Jari van Nes, singing gamely against a Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra in rough shape. Then the composer of the evening's novelty was also, and rather more permanently, indisposed: is it necessary to add, after all the hype, that his name was Ludwig van Beethoven?

Proper judgement of how Dr Barry Cooper has interpreted Beethoven's presumed sketches for a presumed Tenth Symphony will have to await publication of the score.

But even before all the evidence is assembled, one is bound to doubt whether the first movement of Beethoven's Tenth should spend so much time with a mild chorale, or whether the allegro should be so perfunctory in its

development, or whether the preparation for the reprise should be a Brucknerian hushed tremble in the low strings.

No doubt, though, such quibbles miss the point. The relevance of authenticity was questioned a century ago by those who gave the title "Beethoven's Tenth" to Brahms's First Symphony. Instead of thinking of a stockade called "Beethoven's music", within which pieces either do or do not belong, we should perhaps have in mind a point out from which the qualities of being Beethoven diminish as one passes from central works to occasional pieces and juvenilia.

Last night's movement has its place in this sphere, but so do symphonic movements by composers from Schubert to Dukas.

Dr Cooper, clearly disqualified as a Beethoven *ingenium*, should be encouraged to complete his symphony and perhaps allow more of himself into the movements to follow.

Paul Griffiths

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BOOKS

Fire behind the genial pipe

GLYN BOYD HART

Peter Ackroyd reviews the true English daemon behind a bluff carapace

J. B. PRIESTLEY
By Vincent Bromé
Hamish Hamilton, £16.95

The most apparently "conservative" writers are often, as it turns out, in fact the most interesting and complicated. And so it is that in reading Vincent Bromé's rewarding and substantial life of J. B. Priestley, the pipe-smoking, down-to-earth Yorkshireman disappears, and in the place of that stock and at least stocky idol emerges a more shadowy, difficult, and intriguing figure.

At first he might have seemed superbly well equipped for the more conventional role — born into the "superior working class" of Bradford, with a schoolmaster as a father, he entered the wool business after leaving school. But even from an early age he was writing, poems, stories, and sketches in a notebook as he sat in front of a small gas fire in an attic room — here, in other words, are the makings of a writer. But his ambitions were thwarted by the time he enlisted in 1914, and for the next four years he endured, like so many others, the privations of trench warfare in France.

On his return to England he went up to Cambridge on an army grant, married, and before long began the perilous career of freelance writer in London, which, for some, afforded more horrors than the First World War itself. In his critical books of the period (one of the many types of journalism he practised) he wrote most perceptively about Pausanias and Meropis, neither of whom could be described as great to any first Yorkshire mill. This in turn leads one to inquire into the nature of Priestley's Englishness — although he was often compared with H. G. Wells or Hugh Walpole, the real nature of his genius (for genius it was) is of a much more wayward and interesting kind. In fact it is an epitome of English creativity in general, particularly with its interest in the theatre and in theatrical performance (he even went so far as to act in one of his own plays). There is also that strain of weary, urban lyricism which links him to George Gissing, and of course there is the note of melancholy humour that surfaces in nearly everything he achieved, but he also possessed an



preoccupation with what he called "the unknown". Here is the true English daemon, and those who pontificate about the foreign roots of "magical realism" should look closer to home.

His own London life was disorientated in more immediate ways — a wife dying of cancer, an illegitimate child — but these misfortunes were followed by the enormous success of *The Good Companions* in his 35th year. Of course its popularity meant that he was at once accused of "selling out", but no one who has read the novel — from its wonderful evocation of the topography of northern England to its magnificent last lines, "these hints and guesses, words in the air and gesticulating shadows, these stumbling chronicles of a dream of life" — can doubt that behind the comic vitality and picaresque bustle there is a genuine imaginative spirit brooding with folded wings.

Priestley was never satisfied with anything he had done, however, and soon after his ascent upon fiction he turned his attention to drama with *Dangerous Corner*. Such energy and self-discipline are everywhere apparent in this biography for they,

more than anything else, turned abiding fascination for what was "magical" and an equally strong him into a successful and important writer. In fact he is one of the very few novelists who made the transition to playwright (Henry James and Charles Dickens were notable failures in that respect), thus emphasizing the fact that Priestley was at home with every form of the literary medium. This was no wasting of resources, but an instinctive capaciousness and breadth of vision.

It is clear from his correspondence, for example, that Priestley was always obsessed with the nature of "Time", and Vincent Bromé's previous biographical explorations of Freud and Jung make him the perfect guide through the recesses of Priestley's stranger visions. He was fascinated by Ouspensky, by I. W. Dunne, and by Jung himself; but through all his travels with Time one senses his need for both escape and sanctuary.

Of course his broadcasts during the Second World War gave him a kind of popularity that he had never before experienced, and this

often brooding and generally melancholy man became an image of steadfast good humour before attack. But there never really was a "Jolly Jack," as he once admitted, and certainly there was nothing jolly about Priestley's marital and extra-marital relations. Finally he achieved happiness in his marriage to Jacquetta Hawkes, but it had been a long, rough ride. I am not sure that this amatory pilgrimage is worth quite the attention which Mr Bromé lavishes upon it — more interesting, perhaps, are his leads with Leavis and Evelyn Waugh. There is also the strange matter of his connection with CND. Writers are sometimes superbly equipped for the vagaries of political discourse, but they are usually quite ill-suited to the compromises of political activity.

Here, then, is a baffling, paradoxical, splendid man who had more than just the "hell of a lot of talent" to which he once laid claim. Vincent Bromé's account really does justice to him, and this biography achieves that rare synthesis — you come from the book not only knowing more about Priestley but also liking him better.

Amateur analogies

NOVEL
OF THE WEEK

Andrei Navrozov

PICTURE THIS
By Joseph Heller
Macmillan, £12.95

here, in their kaleidoscopic symmetry, the operative parallels of this novel are haphazard and ultimately misleading. Indeed, the similarities between Athenian democracy and our own predicament have been a truism for many a century, and it is only the manner in which one investigates the exact nature of these similarities that divides the scholar from the bore, the raconteur from the vulgarian.

Picture Pericles, for instance. Is he more like President Roosevelt of the New Deal or President Johnson of the Vietnam War? Or is he an out-and-out imperialist like Queen Victoria? But perhaps he is most like Russia's last hope, Stolypin? Alcibiades must be Alger Hiss, or Kim Philby, provided Sparta had by now developed its nuclear capability. Is Melos at all like Korea? But perhaps it is Persia that is like Soviet Russia, with, say, Artaxerxes the Thoughtful for

The American novelist Joseph Heller is the second amateur historian to go native in ancient Athens this autumn. After I. F. Stone, at age 70, astonished his admirers by learning Greek for the trip, it should be even more surprising that the author of *Catch-22* embarks on his journey without any such preparation. And if, as Izzy Stone's detractors would have us believe, *The Trial of Socrates* is history through the small end of a telescope, the sole optical device upon which his compatriot must have relied is the kaleidoscope.

The optical analogy is particularly appropriate because Mr Heller's excursion begins with the Dutch, who invented optics, and continues among the Greeks, who invented analogies. In fact, as the author moves from Amsterdam in the 17th century AD, where his subject, Rembrandt van Rijn, is busy painting his "Aristotle Contemplating the Bust of Homer", to Athens in the fourth century BC, where his subject's subject once did the contemplating, it becomes clear that analogies — between these two eras of civilization and our own — are what this novel is all about.

Yet in order to be useful, or even worth using, analogy must be a precision instrument, calibrated to measure reality. Colourful and attractive to the eye as they are

Stalin and Tissaphernes for Beria? That would make Sparta like Nazi Germany and put America at the head of the Delian League, later known as NATO. In short, when viewed from East Hampton, New York, through the kaleidoscope of Mr Heller's mottled reflections on Plato and Thucydides, Periclean Athens is every bit like Holland. No, England. I mean, America.

The obvious problem with such uncalibrated, arbitrary analogizing is that it brings out the complacent provincial in the best of us, if only by allowing us to associate the objective present with a subjective past. Confronted with the reality of totalitarianism, even a professional philosopher like Bertrand Russell could in good conscience advocate the surrender of the West on the reassuring grounds that Rome, too, had once fallen to the barbarians years itself again after a mere 1,000 years. It never occurred to the philosopher that the world had existed for millenniums before Rome; that it is into the abyss of those dark ages, not the Dark Ages of Charlemagne, that the West may fall; and that 20th-century science and technology are potent enough, in an absolute sense, to postpone the regeneration of freedom indefinitely. With professionals like this having a go at history, who needs amateurs?

Genius loci of Barcelona

FICTION

Stuart Evans

CITY OF MARVELS
By Eduardo Mendoza
Translated by Bernard Molloy
Collins Harvill, £10.95
KLARA



By Hugh Thomas
Hamish Hamilton, £12.95
MASTERCLASS
By Morris West
Hutchinson, £11.95
THE DEATH OF METHUSELAH
By Isaac Bashevis Singer
Cape, £11.95

and aristocratic, who is abducted by Russian troops in the first chapter to reappear much later in the novel (though not in its time-scale) as a beautiful, accomplished *femme* who seems to be literally *fatale*. Meanwhile, French, English, American, and Russian officers, who afford fertile compost for cosmopolitan satire, vie with one another in pursuit of art treasure, notably the crown of Charles V. A whodunit rather than a structural shortcoming always entertaining and absorbing. It is a

city that Lord Thomas cannot resist cramming his rich Austrian gâteau with every candied goblet of erudite title and aesthetic nibble that comes to hand. Each nibble makes the reader less confident of his digestion.

Masterclass offers two ingeniously interwoven plots in which a lazy academic, sometime lover and archivist to a rich Tuscan widow, shakes off his lethargy upon the discovery of priceless Old Masters and takes on the despotism of the international art world. In so doing, he becomes involved in enquiries into the year-old murder of a beautiful, promiscuous painter whose genius was apparently thwarted by a tyrannical husband. The novel exhibits Morris West's frequent range of high-powered, ostentatiously rich, variously attractive characters most of whom harbour some vicious mole of nature.

In a brief note on the title story, Isaac Bashevis Singer comments on the struggle between good and demonic forces of evil identified with lust. This story and "The Jew from Babylon" are two which resemble authentic folk tales. Most of the others, strictly Yiddish in provenance and culture, are set in New York or Eastern Europe. Most deal with sexual corruption, infidelity, or at least with eccentric relationships between the sexes in which women are far from flattered. The moral of each story, such as it may be, is seldom laboured, and the dying fall of most concluding paragraphs leaves the reader pondering — or struggling. Some veterans of the *Today* programme may feel as though they have taken an overdose of the wit and wisdom of Rabbi Lionel Blue. Profound irony, perhaps: less wit.

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The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

Byron, *The Making of a Myth*, by Stephen Coote (The Bodley Head, £7.95). Lattin bicentennial superior coffee-table by a professional. Eddy, *The Life of Edward Sackville-West*, by Michael De-la-Noy (The Bodley Head, £16). First life of background Thirties literary. Edmund Burke, by Stanley Ayling (John Murray, £17.95). Political bio. *Filming Shakespeare's Plays*, by Anthony Davies (Cambridge, £25). Madrid, by Hugh Thomas (Constable, £14.95, paperback £8.95). Literary travellers' companion, with comments across five centuries. Nelson, *The Immortal Memory*, by David Howarth & Stephen Howarth (Dent, £16). Father and son naval historians on our greatest. *Over the Rim of the World*, edited by Caroline Moorehead (John Murray, £19.95). Letters of Freya Stark, foreword by Paddy Leigh Fermor.

Lost rabbi our gain

Woodrow Wyatt

BACK-BENCHER
By Ian Mikardo
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95

At 11 Ian Mikardo was top of the 11-plus pass list for the whole of Portsmouth in 1919. His headmaster said to his mother, "He will go a long way. I wouldn't be at all surprised if he finished up as a Member of Parliament." Mrs Mikardo was dismayed. Her ambition was for him to be a rabbi, much more impressive than an MP. He almost became one, attending Arian College founded by a rich Portsmouth merchant for the purpose of training young Hampshire Jews as divines.

The young Mikardo got a religious education there and simultaneously an excellent secular education at Portsmouth Grammar School, but it gradually grew on him that a ministry in religion was not for him. His strong instincts to do good were nudged towards a political career by reading R. H. Tawney's *Fabian Essays in Socialism*, and writings by other democratic socialists. Marx made less impact on him than the Umbrella Cup. His first non-Jewish friend took him to his poverty-stricken home. When he asked why the large battered toby jug on the dresser was called the Umbrella Cup, the mother replied, "Because it's there to protect us against a rainy day. There's one in most houses in this street." In it went every penny not immediately needed to provide against emergencies like paying a shilling to visit the doctor.

The purpose of Ian Mikardo's style of socialism is to eliminate umbrella cups and the hardships and the stifling of the spirit they symbolize. He has fought hard, honestly, and admirably for his cause without the slightest hint of priggishness. Clever, well-read, kind, tolerant, and urbane, he is one of the most amusing men I

have known. His energy and talent for organization are remarkable. He should have had office, and believes he failed to get it because Attlee had a streak of anti-Semitism. Maybe; but I suspect that the real reason was that Labour Prime Ministers thought him further to the left than he is, and feared his ability to make trouble when Party Conference decisions were disregarded, and pragmatic departures from what he considered socialist principles were contemplated.

He was even distressed by Nye Bevan, a friend on whom he had much influence, when he ultimately defended the necessity for Britain to keep its nuclear weapons. He was always credited with persuading Bevan to widen the apology for his 1951 Cabinet resignation over charges on teeth and spectacles to a campaign for reducing armaments. Michael Foot was another friend he influenced (I fear misguidedly) when he urged him to stand against Denis Healey for the Labour leadership. This ensured Labour's defeat in 1983, and consequently its defeat in 1987.

This is a very rare entertaining book, full of happy humanity and generosity to opponents. As a back-bencher Ian Mikardo was more worthwhile and had far more impact than 99 per cent of Cabinet Ministers, who will be forgotten long before him. I'm glad he denied his mother her ambitions for him.

Saturday books: Robert Nye reviews Larkin, Simon Barnes in Hongkong with Jan Morris

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BBC1

- 6.00** *Cartoon AM*.
6.40 *Edgar Kennedy in Love Your Landlord* (tw). **6.55** *Weather*.
7.00 *Breakfast Time* with John Stapleton and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. **8.55** Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Bob Wellings receives 'Worers' comments on yesterday's television offerings. To participate ring 061-814 024.
9.20 *Kilroy* Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a discussion on a topical subject.
10.00 News and weather followed by *Going for Gold*. European quiz series presented by Henry Kelly (r). **10.25** *Children's BBC* introduced by Andy Crane beginning with *Playbox* 10.30. **10.50** *Jack and the Beanstalk*.
11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Mavis Nicholson and Bob Wellings discuss the *Blind Justice* case and ponder whether or not the British legal system is the best in the world.
12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live* presented by Alan Titchmarsh and Nigel Martin. The guests include *Neighbours* star Peter O'Brien; Michael Carr; and, with a song, *Breathless*. **12.55** Regional news and weather.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Weather. **1.30** *Neighbours*. Jim Jones his temper. **1.50** *Going for Gold*. European quiz game.
2.15 *Film: Born to Be Bad* (1950, b/w) starring Joan Fontaine, Robert Ryan and Zachary Scott. Drama about a man-killer on the trail in San Francisco of a millionaire and a successful writer. Directed by Nicholas Ray. **3.45** *Sherrif Hot Klot*. Cartoon.

BBC2

- 9.00** *Cartoon*. **9.20** *Daytime on Two*: the exciting 1980s. **9.40** *Information* followed by **10.00** *Thinkabout* 10.40. Science: measurement 11.00. Mary, Queen of Scots 11.20. Concorde in the landscape 11.40. The fascination of motor cars 12.10. Trigonometry 12.30. Choosing between Dukes and Bush 12.55. **1.25** *Little Misses and the Mister Men* (r). **1.40** *Musical Time*. The sound of bells (r).
2.00 News and weather followed by *Watch*. Children perform the *Raymays* (r). **2.15** *Holiday Outings*. Australia's Great Barrier Reef (r).
2.25 *Revels from Newbury and Snooker*. Julian Wilson introduces coverage of the 2.40, 3.10, 3.45 and 4.10 races; David Vine is at the Hexagon. *Revels from the Rothmans Grand Prix*. News and weather at 3.50 and 4.50.
5.35 *Country File*. Positive results from the damage done by last October's high winds (r).

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00** *TV-am*.
6.25 *Runway*. Travel and general knowledge quiz. **6.55** *Thames news and weather*. **10.00** *The Place*.
10.40 *The Morning Magazine* series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes advice on family problems and help with repairing domestic furniture and possessions.
12.10 *Puddle Lane*. Puppet series for the young. **12.30** *Santa Barbara*. Gossy soap about a community of sun-kissed Californian Sybarites.
1.00 *News at One* with Snow. **1.20** *Thames news and weather*.
1.30 *Noon on Photography*. Gene Noon joins Prince Andrew on his Post Office commission to photograph four castles for a new issue of stamps. **2.00** *Richard Hill*. Australian drama serial. **2.55** *Home Cookery Club*. *Cottage Pizzas* (r).
3.00 *Take the High Road*. Isabel visits Grace and Sharon. **3.25** *Thames news and weather*. **3.30** *Santa Barbara*.
4.00 *Button Moon*. Puppet series. **4.10** *The Adventure of the Titled* (r). **4.30** *Gilbert's Fridge*. The first of a new series of 10 children's programmes. **4.45** *Benjamin* (r). (Oracle).
5.15 *Blockbusters*.
5.45 *News with Fiona Armstrong*. **6.00** *Thames news and weather*. **6.25** *Help with news of Hepatitis B*.
6.30 *Emmerdale Farm*. Turner gets ready to do the dirty on Joe. **7.00** *Jimmy's Real life* drama about the residents and staff of St James's University Hospital, Leeds. **7.30** *Chloe Lethers*. Word association game.
8.00 *The Bill*. PCs Smith and Ramsay are protecting a prosecution witness and decide to take him to the local dog track - but the three of them are followed.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.20** *Schools*.
12.00 *The Parliament Programme* presented by Glyn Mathias and Alastair Stewart.
12.30 *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service presented by Susan Somers.
1.00 *Autocare*. Car purchases and maintenance series (r). (Oracle).
1.30 *Powerbase*. A series on understanding electricity (r). (Oracle).
2.00 *Mighty Moments from World History*. The legend of Arthur and Guinevere as told by the National Theatre of Great Britain, Patrick Barlow and Robert Austin (r).
3.00 *A People's War*. The first of a seven-part series on the impact of the Second World War on the lives of ordinary people. (Oracle).
4.00 *Time To Talk*. A new series begins with Lesley Judd talking to Mary Whitehouse about her religious beliefs.
4.30 *Flower to One*. General knowledge quiz game presented by William G. Stewart.
5.00 *Baseball*. Oakland Athletics v Los Angeles Dodgers (r).

BBC1

- Wales** 12.30pm-12.35pm. **12.35** *News and weather*. **12.55** *Weather*.
1.00 *Reporting Scotland*. **1.30** *Supersport*. **1.40** *Supersport*.
5.35pm *Scotland's Sport*. **6.00** *Inside Ulster*. **6.25** *Inside Ulster*. **6.50** *Spotlight*. **7.00** *Spotlight*. **7.30** *Spotlight*. **7.55** *Spotlight*. **8.00** *Spotlight*. **8.25** *Spotlight*. **8.50** *Spotlight*. **9.00** *Spotlight*. **9.25** *Spotlight*. **9.50** *Spotlight*. **10.00** *Spotlight*. **10.25** *Spotlight*. **10.50** *Spotlight*. **11.00** *Spotlight*. **11.25** *Spotlight*. **11.50** *Spotlight*. **12.00** *Spotlight*. **12.25** *Spotlight*. **12.50** *Spotlight*. **1.00** *Spotlight*. **1.25** *Spotlight*. **1.50** *Spotlight*. **2.00** *Spotlight*. **2.25** *Spotlight*. **2.50** *Spotlight*. **3.00** *Spotlight*. **3.25** *Spotlight*. **3.50** *Spotlight*. **4.00** *Spotlight*. **4.25** *Spotlight*. **4.50** *Spotlight*. **5.00** *Spotlight*. **5.25** *Spotlight*. **5.50** *Spotlight*. **6.00** *Spotlight*. **6.25** *Spotlight*. **6.50** *Spotlight*. **7.00** *Spotlight*. **7.25** *Spotlight*. **7.50** *Spotlight*. **8.00** *Spotlight*. **8.25** 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MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1513.2 (+3.7)	US dollar 1.7505 (-0.0015)
FT-SE 100 1882.5 (+5.5)	W German mark 3.1719 (+0.0122)
USM (Dollars) 162.27 (+0.21)	Trade-weighted 76.6 (+0.2)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Report on Clowes out today

The Government will publish Sir Godfrey Le Queux's report on the Barlow Clowes affair today, almost six weeks after it was completed and sent to Lord Young, the Trade and Industry Secretary. Some 18,000 investors whose life savings were put at risk by the collapse of Barlow Clowes in May and June this year await the report. The inquiry was set up to examine the background to the Department of Trade's decision to license Barlow Clowes to deal with the public in October 1985 and its subsequent monitoring of the company's British operations.

The Investment and Pensions Advisory Service, the Surrey financial intermediary, put £60 million into Barlow Clowes, a Thames TV documentary reveals tonight. The programme also shows that the Nasdim disciplinary committee, but not the full committee, recommended in 1985 that Mr David Gray, the co-owner of IPAS, should have his membership of Nasdim terminated.

Hunting rises

Hunting Associated Industries, the defence and engineering group, reported pre-tax profits up 56 per cent to £9 million on turnover up 1.3 per cent to £168 million. An interim dividend of 4p net was declared. *Tempus, page 26*

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2148.51 (-13.34)
Dow Jones	2148.51 (-13.34)
Nikkei Average	22283.57 (+151.89)
Hong Kong	Closed
Hang Seng	282.0 (+2.3)
Australian	1578.4 (+7.4)
Sydney	1578.4 (+7.4)
Frankfurt	1891.0 (+11.2)
Commerzbank	1891.0 (+11.2)
Bosch	5328.04 (-0.64)
Paribas	380.8 (+2.5)
Zurich	485.8 (+2.4)
London	
FT-30 Share	1513.2 (+3.7)
FT-100	1882.5 (+5.5)
FT Gold Minus	574.1 (-1.5)
FT Fixed Interest	57.62 (+1.5)
FT Govt Bonds	88.27 (+0.06)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RHSES:	
United Biscuits	307.5p (+21.25)
Rock & Colman	85.0p (+1.00)
Mount Charlotte	156.0p (+1.00)
Lloyds	328.0p (+1.00)
Vaux Group	680.0p (+1.00)
Canada	357.0p (+1.00)
Countryside	261.0p (+1.00)
Nat West	550.0p (+1.00)
Amber Ind	340.0p (+1.00)
Besa	797.0p (+1.00)
Usher Walker	450.0p (+1.00)
Mervale Moore	467.0p (+1.00)
Carlson	620.0p (+1.00)
Norton Opax	164.0p (+1.00)
J Cropper	222.0p (+1.00)

FALLS:

Abbey Life	294.0p (-12.50)
Lawler	375.0p (-1.00)
Scott	387.0p (-1.00)
Witniss	447.0p (-1.00)

Closing prices

28276

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	12%
3-month interbank	12-11 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	11 1/2-11%
9-month bills	11%
US Prime Rate	10%
Federal Funds Rate	8 1/2%
3-month Treasury	7.40-7.35%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£/\$	\$1.7507
£/DM	DM1.8110
£/Sfr	Sfr1.5227
£/FF	FF10.2028
£/Yen	Yen127.27
£/Ind	Ind396.0
£/ECU	ECU 0.653838

GOLD

London:	New York:
AM \$410.80 pm \$411.25	
close \$410.75-411.25 (234.50-235.00)	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Nov 1) pm \$13.15bbl (\$13.30)	
* Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES

STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included: Abbey Life (01800), was suspended at 294p; brewers were lively, the Vaux Group (02564) up 14p, Scottish and Newcastle (01897) and Elders (05134) ending lower; hotels were featured, with Trust House Forte (01753) up 3p and Mount Charlotte (01822) 3 1/2p better.

Recent additions include: Melville Group (03473), Sunset and Vine (03471).

Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

Why Minorco believes a break-up would be best

Nothing on the front door of 35 Ely Place, a private cut-throat off London's Holborn Circus, suggests that behind the anemic varnish lies what many regard as the offshore powerhouse of the Anglo-American empire.

But in a cramped, smoke-filled room, Sir Michael Edwards, the chief executive of Minorco, outlines the grand ambitions which led to the £2.9 billion bid, four weeks ago, for Consolidated Gold Fields, an independent move, according to Sir Michael, made without first consulting Anglo.

Sir Michael conducts *The Times* round the "engine room" of the bid. To the outsider, it appears the bid has run into a series of obstacles over the ConsGold associates. In the United States, Australia and Papua New Guinea, politicians have spoken against Minorco. The break-up of ConsGold, if the bid succeeds, appears inevitable.

At Ely Place, this is presented as all part of the pre-arranged plan.

Sir Michael says: "There is a limit to what we can tell from outside the company, but we do not think the regulatory issues have any bearing because we have good financial reasons for doing what we want to do."

"The profit before tax on a normal basis of ConsGold is, say, £300 million. We propose to sell Gold Fields South Africa and Newmont Mining, not for political reasons. We will get about £1.1 billion for our shares. If you take that billion and for the moment write it off against the debt of the two companies, hypothetically, you can see it saves us, call it £100 to £120 million in real money."

"Now, the £200 million of remaining profit is real profit and these are the things we want to keep, the two ARCs (the aggregates and concrete pipe companies in Britain and the US) and Gold Fields Mining Corporation. The £100 million profit we are dropping off because of the £1.1 billion sales — only £28 million of that is cash profits, the rest is paper profits."

"What I am trying to do is really focus, to give you the engine room of the ship we have been putting up to the Press so far. We talk of passive investments, we cannot get our hands on the cash, all of that is in a sense a superficial view of what is happening. The arithmetic tells us we drop about 3 per cent in cash earnings and we gain about 10 per cent of 11 per cent. Work that out on the hundreds of millions we are talking about."

One of the thrusts of ConsGold's defence is that Minorco would break up the group and that this should not be allowed. In the eyes of Sir Michael and his colleagues, the best thing that could happen to ConsGold is a break-up.

"This is not asset stripping. This is fundamental. If you take the clothes off ConsGold inside there is a very healthy, thriving company that is fundamentally the businesses it owns 100 per cent."

But if ConsGold is a collection of "passive" investments with an active core, is not Minorco just a collection of passive investments without an operating centre?

This Minorco does not deny, but counters that in bidding for ConsGold it is starting with its biggest investment and will work through the portfolio.

Mr Roger Phillimore, commercial director of Minorco, said: "We are still in a redeployment mode, and the bid for ConsGold is part of that. I hope one day we will move on to the rest of the group, all those interesting things, including Charter Consolidated, and one thing you can be sure of in a year or 18 months from now, we will either have more of them or less of them."

"When a company is the largest single shareholder and doesn't exercise control, the world nevertheless believes it ought to exercise control when things go wrong."

"We want to control our destiny, we want to control the assets and we want to control cash flow. We would be perfectly happy, we relish the responsibility that that authority confers," he says.

But it will not be easily obtained.

David Brewerton

DTI launches ConsGold share inquiry

By Colin Campbell

The Department of Trade and Industry has appointed two inspectors to investigate possible insider dealing in the shares and options market in Consolidated Gold Fields, ahead of Minorco's record breaking £2.9 billion bid.

In view of the development, Schroders, ConsGold's merchant bankers, will formally request that the Takeover Panel stops the bid clock.

Mr Rudolph Agnew, the ConsGold chairman, welcomed the inquiry as vindication of his charge of abnormal dealings in ConsGold shares and options before the September 21 announcement.

In front of the formal bid, London trading in ConsGold shares was four times the average level, Mr Agnew said. In Johannesburg, trading activity was 15 times the average.

Mr Agnew said that the share register has clearly been destabilised.

"Every bid must have a level pitch. There has been a false market in ConsGold, against which background a bid should not proceed," he said.

The first closing date of Minorco's offer is next Tuesday, October 25.

Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of Minorco, said: "We welcome the DTI inquiry. Before the time of the bid, such dealing activity was obviously prejudicial to our interest, and any steps that can be taken to ascertain the full facts must be good for us."

However, he did not believe Minorco's bid or its outcome would be affected by last night's developments.

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said he was appointing inspectors under section 442 of the Companies Act to investigate the membership of ConsGold.

Lord Young also intends to appoint the same inspectors under section 177 of the Financial Services Act to investigate possible contravention of the Company Securities (Insider Dealing) Act 1985.

He named Mr Philip Heslop, QC, and Mr Richard Lewis of Kidsons, the accountant, as inspectors.

Under the Act, the inspectors have the power to call for evidence under oath. ConsGold added.



Something to smile about: Sir Peter Baxendale yesterday. Photograph: Chris Harris

Hawker up 10% to £80.6m

Hawker Siddeley, the electrical and mechanical engineering group, increased pre-tax profits by 10 per cent from £73.1 million to £80.6 million in the half year to end June.

Mr Bernard Bensly, group chief executive, said: "The results are very much in line with our expectations. They show a useful progression on last year with the earnings, return on sales and order book all steadily up."

Sir Peter Baxendale, the chairman, said: "We are confident of further progress during the second half of 1988." The interim dividend was increased by 53 per cent from 5.5p to 8.4p.

This uplift was primarily a move to reduce the disparity between the interim and final payment although it also reflects the group's prospects.

Hawker Siddeley's three electrical divisions, motors and generators, distribution and controls, and specialized electrical equipment, increased trading profits by 7 per cent, 30 per cent and 11 per cent respectively to £13.4 million, £24 million and £13.9 million.

The order book is up 20 per cent on last year, standing at well over £1 billion, and shows sound underlying growth.

Tempus, page 26

Mecca nets another 7.8% with £40m raid

By Cliff Feltham

Mecca Leisure launched a stock market raid on Pleasurama last night in an 11th-hour bid to clinch victory in its £770 million takeover battle.

Mecca, which was holding acceptances of more than 30 per cent, sent its brokers into the market to buy 17 million shares, or 7.8 per cent of Pleasurama, at a cost of £40.8 million. Mecca's advisers spent last night counting the Pleasurama shares to discover whether they needed to extend the offer until Saturday — the last possible date in the drawn-out struggle.

Mecca's raid took Pleasurama by surprise. Earlier, it had been confident of support from a number of key institutional shareholders. But Provident Mutual, Pleasurama's biggest single shareholder with a 5 per cent stake, had already defected to Mecca. Mecca was able to buy shares in the market because the price was below its own terms of 255p. Its broker, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, had little trouble in picking up Pleasurama shares at 240p.

The battle for Pleasurama has provoked passion in the City, mainly because 25 per cent of the shares in both companies have been held by the same institutions.

Most have accepted that Mecca's management was the more dynamic and had shown itself adept at producing excellent returns from businesses such as bingo clubs, which had shown little growth in turnover.

However, a strong body of opinion felt that Pleasurama's own management was not being given sufficient time to prove that its acquisitions would pay off.

Mecca's bid, if it proves successful, will create a major force in the entertainment industry.

Smith New Court suspended by Panel for breaching code

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The City Takeover Panel has revoked the exempt market-maker status of Smith New Court, the City's largest independent market-maker, for three months as punishment for a breach of the Takeover Code which the Panel saw as "so serious that it must be marked by a period of suspension."

As a result, Smith New Court will not be able to make markets in the shares of companies involved in take-over bids, where it is also acting as stockbroker or corporate finance adviser to one of the parties.

This is the first time the Panel has effectively suspended a leading City firm from a class of business. It marks an attempt by the Panel to force City firms to take the details of the Takeover Code more seriously.

The Smith New Court case, which involved dealings in the shares of its corporate client Ruberoid, is the third case this year when leading firms have been discovered inadvertently breaching Rule 38 of the Code, which governs the activities of exempt market-makers during a bid.

The Panel's written judgement said: "this case demonstrated incompetence and incompetence on the part of a number of people within parties involved and their advisers. But the exemption depends on the market-maker not dealing in shares in the company involved in the bid on behalf of the group's brokers or corporate finance sides and no information passing between them."

A Smith New Court market-maker in Ruberoid shares was told by a director not to sell a line of 1 million shares it owned to Ruberoid Industries, which was mounting a hostile bid for Ruberoid. Smith New Court's brokers then told Ruberoid, and it was arranged for the shares to be bought by a broker who turned out to be acting for Tarmac, which then made an agreed Ruberoid bid.

On October 10, Smith New Court was effectively forced to unscramble this transaction at a loss of at least £60,000.

Yesterday's punishment is aimed at making Smith New Court tighten up training and procedures to convince the Takeover Panel that it will comply with Rule 38 and the exemption agreement in future.

Leading article, page 17

50 jobs go at Quilter Goodison

By Our City Staff

Quilter Goodison, the private client stockbroker, has made 50 workers redundant — around a quarter of its staff.

The decision follows the recent sale of the company to Commercial Union, the insurance company, by Paribas, the French bank.

The cuts were made across the board, it was announced, but it is understood that a large proportion were made in the back room office. They follow 30 redundancies earlier this year.

The company was hit by the slump in the share-dealing business and has reduced levels in private client business since Black Monday.

Mr Glyn Roberts, managing director, last night refused to rule out further redundancies.

Your success is our business.

More and more organisations are turning to the Urwick Management Centre for advice on Management Training and Development.

We undertake both in-company training and run a series of public courses.

Some of the programmes we are offering during the next few months are:

- LEADERSHIP IN ACTION
28th November to 2nd December 1988
23rd to 25th January 1989
- SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION
18th to 20th January 1989, 5th to 7th April 1989
- PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATION
9th to 11th January 1989, 13th to 15th March 1989
- USE AND ABUSE OF STRESS
16th to 17th January 1989, 10th to 11th April 1989
- SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES FOR THE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN
Module 1: 5th to 7th December 1988
6th to 8th February 1989
Module 2: 6th to 7th March 1989

For further information please write or telephone Mrs Ruth Drahota at the Urwick Management Centre, Baylis House, Stoke Poges Lane, Slough, Berks, SL1 3PF. Telephone (0753) 34111.

Price Waterhouse

URWICK MANAGEMENT CENTRE

Information Technology Exchange

Share inquiry as Abbey Life arranges link with Lloyds

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank and Abbey Life, the unit-linked life assurance company, will today announce agreement on a joint venture covering insurance, estate agencies and fund management.

Meanwhile, the Stock Exchange said that it had launched an investigation into the sudden price movement in Abbey's shares yesterday morning. By 9.30am the shares had to be suspended at 294p after falling rapidly by 12p in early trading. Abbey said, however, an announce-

ment on the expected deal would not be made until today. Lloyds shares, which were not suspended, rose 11p to 330p.

The deal is expected to involve Abbey taking a stake in Lloyds' Black Horse estate agency chain, Black Horse Life and fund management operations. In return, Lloyds may receive a stake in Abbey of up to 30 per cent, although some market sources suggested that a straight cash payment could also be possible. There were also sugges-

tions that Abbey may be taking a cross-shareholding in Lloyds. The operations, which constitute a large part of Lloyds' diversified financial services, are worth a total of about £400 million.

A joint operation would give the rapidly growing Black Horse Life access to Abbey's sales force of more than 1,000 people. In the past 18 months, Black Horse Life has developed as Britain's fastest-growing life company. Although policies have mainly been sold through Lloyds' branches, the

bank has been contemplating building up a sales force to boost sales further, but this is an expensive and potentially risky route to take. One solution is to link up with an existing sales force.

Lloyds has also built up Black Horse estate agencies in the past several years into one of the country's largest estate agency chains, with the aim of selling a variety of financial services through them. The link with Abbey will give it a wider range of products to sell through these outlets, making

the estate agencies more cost-effective.

Abbey would gain the use of the Black Horse estate agency chain as a further outlet for its insurance products and mortgages. As a relatively new life company it needs to keep up the flow of new business to maintain its earnings.

Rumours that Abbey was buying the whole of Lloyds' Financial Services Group, including its estate agency chain and Black Horse Life, its insurance company seemed unlikely.

Trafalgar wins deal in Turkey

Trafalgar House, the shipping to construction group, has reached agreement with the Istanbul municipality of Kartal for a project worth up to £1.5 billion to build a new town in Turkey, about the size of Brighton.

Backed by Mrs Thatcher, the group has been persistently trying to secure the contract for the third Bosphorus bridge, but Turkey's financial situation appears to have put the project on ice.

In addition to management fees, probably in the region of 2 to 5 per cent of the scheme's £100 million annual turnover, Trafalgar House will also be bidding for the actual construction work in competition with other firms.

Cementation International, its civil engineering subsidiary, signed the deal as 80 per cent partner in a joint venture with Mitchell Management Systems.

The memorandum of agreement will lead to a contract for project management services for a 65,000-dwelling township for 300,000 people to be built over 10 to 15 years. Work is expected to start next year.

Hibs float

The offer for the Third Market flotation of Edinburgh Hibernian, the Scottish Football League club, closed oversubscribed. Applications for fewer than 30,000 shares will be met in full. Those above will get about 60 per cent. Hibs is offering 2.29 million new shares for subscription by the public. Another 1.36 million shares have been placed.

R-R orders

Rolls-Royce, the aero engine maker, has won two airline orders worth £108 million. An engines and spares contract for Qantas is worth £75 million, while an Ilesland RB211 engine order is worth £33 million.

Marler sells

Marler Estates, the property company, has sold its 6.7 per cent holding in Zurich Group, the former Ecobric, to Freehold Trading, an offshore group of investors. The stake has a market value of £3.4 million.

BT director

Mr Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive of Woolworth, has been appointed non-executive director of British Telecom for a two-year term.

Clegg gets back to business



Happy return: chairman Tony Clegg back in the City yesterday for Richmond's launch

Mr Tony Clegg, aged 51, the chairman of Mountleigh, is back on top after his serious illness (Vivien Goldsmith writes).

He climbed to the rooftops of the City yesterday to celebrate the launch of Richmond Enterprise Zone Managers, a joint venture with the private developer Richardson.

Mr Clegg, chairman of Mountleigh for five years, resigned as chief executive last week. He had an operation for a brain tumour in August. The new venture, which will bring Mr Clegg

back to full-time work, is looking for £50 million for investment in enterprise zones which offers the benefits of tax relief to individuals and companies.

The project will see three-quarters of the fund go into a retail development at the Merry Hill Centre, Dudley, West Midlands, while the rest will be invested in a waterfront development at the same centre, and an office development in Telford, Shropshire.

Bid battle builds up for Thistle Hotels

By Cliff Feltham

Hotel groups in Britain and overseas are expected to mount bids for the 34 Thistle Hotels if their owner, Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, is taken over by the Australian group Elders IXL.

Elders has indicated its intention to sell the hotels, which are likely to attract around £600 million. Leading analysts believe Elders would find plenty of potential buyers — with British hoteliers facing fierce competition from overseas operators keen to break into this market.

Mr Nigel Reed, of Kitcat & Aitken, said: "Thistle has 45 per cent of its 4,500 rooms in London which makes it very attractive for overseas companies. There is a shortage of rooms in the capital which is likely to get even more acute over the next few years."

The French hotel group Accor, which operates the Ibis chain throughout the Continent, is thought to be taking a close interest. Other foreign companies keen to build up their interests in Britain include the US group Marriott and the Far East giant Mandarin.

Mr Oliver Hoare, of the broker Marshall & Co, suggested another possible buyer could be British Airways Authority. "Hotels would be another important leg to the business," he said.

Front runner at home is likely to be Mount Charlotte, the group run by Mr Robert Peel, which has been trying to build up its chain in and around the capital.

Mount Charlotte was understood to have been involved with a consortium bidding for Inter-Continental, the hotel arm of Grand Metropolitan, recently sold to a Japanese group for £1.2 billion. Queens Moat Houses is also strongly tipped along with Norfolk Capital.

Meanwhile, Elders further criticized Scottish & Newcastle's decision to pay £42 million for a half stake in the Pontin's holiday centre business.

Mr Michael Foster, managing director of Elders' Courage arm, said: "We find it surprising that Scottish & Newcastle are buying into a business which was divested by Bass, their largest competitor in Scotland, only recently."

Eurotunnel to draw on £5bn credit line

By Colin Narborough

Eurotunnel, the Anglo-French consortium licensed to build and operate the Channel Tunnel, has issued formal notice that it will start drawing down a £5 billion credit facility early next month, now it has received the go-ahead from all the 209 syndicating banks involved.

Announcing the initial drawdown yesterday, the company gave no figures, but said the amount would be "substantial". It also stressed that there would be no change in the borrowing conditions.

This confirmed Eurotunnel's prediction this month that slippage in the tunnelling schedule on both sides of the English Channel would have no effect on the terms of the loan or the timing of the drawdown.

Mr Alastair Morton, the Eurotunnel co-chairman, pointed out then that the banks still found the "cover

ratio" — discounted future income in relation to costs — was still satisfactory, despite the cost being revised upwards by £333 million to £5.23 billion.

Final clearances and consents from the syndicating banks were received this week, allowing Eurotunnel to issue the requisite notices of drawdown. The 31-mile tunnel is scheduled to open in May 1993.

The Government has said action will be taken on plans to build a rail link through Kent.

Responding to criticism from Eurotunnel, an all-private sector venture, that insufficient progress was being made on rail links between the tunnel and the rest of Britain, Mr Paul Channon, the Transport Secretary, last week said that private sector firms would be invited to build and own the high-speed link.

Mystery stakes at Redfearn

By Our City Staff

Redfearn, the glass and packaging group under takeover threat from OVS, the Australian group, has unearthed mystery shareholders who speak for close on 4 per cent of the equity.

The stakes, held in nominee names in New York and Monaco, could be crucial in a bid, since OVS already has 29.9 per cent of Redfearn. Mr John Pratt, Redfearn's former chairman, and members of his family, account for between 12 and 14 per cent.

It is understood, that without satisfactory responses to inquiries, Robert Fleming, Redfearn's adviser, is prepared to seek disenfranchisement of the holdings.

Tomorrow is the deadline for OVS, which has offered its stake for sale at 520p a share. In the absence of any satisfactory bids, it will launch a full offer for Redfearn itself, at 520p a share.

Another rising son of Japan

The City of London could, before too long, have its first Japanese Lord Mayor. For, putting his foot of the first rung of the selection process ladder is one Mr Shibuya, the head of Mitsubishi's European and African operations who is based in London. Mr Shibuya has just become a member of Cordwainer Ward — the equivalent of parishes in the Square Mile — which covers the Bow Bells district of the City. He is certainly the first Japanese to be admitted to Cordwainer and is believed to be the first Japanese man to join any ward club — there are some 20 altogether. He was introduced to Cordwainer by a fellow member and prominent figure in City Corporation circles, Tom Wilnot — but not the Wilnot of Harvard Securities fame. And although the ward clubs are basically social clubs, organizing talks and outings for their members, it is from their members that representatives are elected to sit on the Court of Common Council, the ruling body of the City of London. It is, in turn, from the Court of Common Council that the Lord Mayor is elected — although he must by then have become an alderman and then a sheriff.

● Unemployment must be a thing of the past in Cheltenham. The high street branch of Oddbins, the off-licence, sports a large notice which reads: "Staff Wanted — Dead or Alive."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Single-minded Churchill

Sir Winston Churchill was perhaps more visionary than we gave him credit. Frenchman Florian Walewski, who runs the French operations of TDG, Britain's largest transport company, was one of the guest speakers at a conference on 1992 at Ironmongers Hall, hosted by Kitcat & Aitken, the broker. Himself once an Egyptology student at Cambridge University, Walewski recalled the time Churchill

spoke in a debate there in front of the French ambassador with the motion "This house regrets the loss of Calais." And, according to Walewski, he said: "Calais is my exotic port of entry into France, when I go painting in Aix en Provence. It is always a pleasure to observe that the French and English are not so different. One day Europe will become one country with different people."

Going aboard

The infiltration of the Japanese continues apace. Sueaki Takabatake, who runs High-trex, his own marketing and public relations company, has been appointed a non-exec-

utive director of Amersham International, the medical research group. Thought to be the first Japanese main board director of a blue chip British firm, he was previously managing director of Toshiba International in Britain.



Cult news
The average reader of the financial press is said to read only the first four lines of any corporate advertisement. If so, they will be confused by a full-page advertisement placed by Kleinwort Benson, financial adviser to Pillsbury, in its fight against Grand Met. The first two lines read: "Should you follow the Sheppard?" There is a drawing of a benign-looking Allen Sheppard, chairman of Grand Met with a few sheep. Perhaps they think he is launching some strange new religious cult...

Elegy for old Ebgate

It is not a celebration of the anniversary of Black Monday, but a party being given at BZW's Ebgate House head office tonight will mark the end of an era. It is being hosted by Lancasterian Mike Gray, who is leaving this week after 22 years. And, like many other stockbrokers of his generation, Gray, aged 47, has decided to call it a day because he dislikes the new way of life in the City with its screen-bound dealers. "It is sad that the City has changed and I miss the way it used to be," he says. "It's not nearly as much fun — there's no excitement to get the adrenalin flowing." Gray joined Wedd Durlacher in 1966 as a building analyst before 13 years later becoming a research partner responsible for brewing and retail shares. He has continued to run the firm's pension fund, although lately he has been based in the Watford office of Barclays — only a stone's throw from his Berkhamsted home — running PEPs for Wedd's parent. But even though he no longer needs to work — like others who sold their partnerships — he does not plan to retire yet. "I'm looking for something in the investment area that's not too bureaucratic," he says.

● The latest joke doing the rounds of the City: what have you got if you discover two lawyers up to their necks in sand? Answer: not enough sand.

Carol Leonard

UAP set to lift stake in Sun Life

By Our Banking Correspondent

The main shareholders in Sun Life, the life assurance company, have been reorganizing their holdings prior to the announcement of a business link-up between the British company and Union des Assurances de Paris, the French insurance group.

UAP has secured an option to buy the entire 7.5 per cent stake in Sun Life held by Groupe AG, the Belgian company. Together with its existing shareholding, this gives UAP effective control of 18.2 per cent of Sun shares. UAP and Sun Life are now working out a new arrangement.

Liberty Life, the South African insurance group, has also raised its stake in Sun Life through its subsidiary, Transatlantic Holdings. The extra 0.5 per cent takes its holding to 29 per cent.

Liberty was instrumental in having the original plan to link Sun Life with UAP rejected. But it has now been offered two seats on the Sun Life board in return for its support for the new arrangement.

UAP's option cancels out an earlier agreement under which Maison Lazard, its French merchant bank, held an option to buy the Groupe AG stake. This was part of a broader deal to link UAP with Sun Life which fell through when Sun Life shareholders rejected the plan more than two weeks ago.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Double dealing inquiry for DTI over ConsGold

In the very nick of time the Department of Trade and Industry has appointed inspectors to look into two aspects of the Minorco bid for Consolidated Gold Fields, and with good reason.

Sir Michael Edwards, deputy chairman and chief executive of Minorco, has maintained all along that there could have been no "insiders" to his bid, because the decision was not made to bid until the early hours of the morning on which the bid was actually announced, and that the funding of the deal was similarly arranged, offshore, at the last minute. He says that anyone dealing in ConsGold on the basis of even what the executive directors of Minorco knew would have been playing Russian roulette.

And yet... There is no disguising the fact that some very odd goings-on were detected in the ConsGold shares during the days, weeks and months preceding the bid, just as there were gyrations in the shares two years earlier when, it has now been admitted, negotiations between the two sides even reached the stage where a draft press release, containing the terms of a merger, had been prepared.

Minutes before the DTI decision to investigate was announced last night, ConsGold put out a statement headed

"An Insider Dealing Scandal". ConsGold is not concerned that a few spivs might have made a few bob by trading on the basis of inside information, but the destabilizing effect that the rumour and speculation undoubtedly had on the share price, and on the possible outcome of the bid.

ConsGold believes that the rumours had the effect of moving shares, including shares subject to call options, from normal shareholders to speculators seeking a short-term profit. And they, by implication, would be more inclined to accept the Minorco offer.

Among the items of evidence which ConsGold says is consistent with insider dealers "having knowledge of both the time and value of the bid" is that, in the three days before the bid was announced, turnover in its shares in London increased to more than four times the average level during the preceding month, and in Johannesburg to nearly 15 times the average.

This is indeed a matter for the DTI to investigate and, if necessary, prosecute. But the hard fact of life for ConsGold is that, even before the investigations have barely begun, its fate will be set. Somebody who should know better once described insider dealing as "a victimless crime". Try telling that to ConsGold.

Lawson faces a taxing task

The Chancellor, Nigel Lawson, faces a tricky task this evening in his annual engagement at the Mansion House. Traditionally, he uses the occasion to give a half-term report on monetary policy but, since the Budget, he has been in open disagreement with the Prime Minister on key aspects of the policy which make it difficult for him to throw much more light on it. The issue which cries out for explanation is the role of the exchange rate, but that is the very issue he is unlikely to tackle in any detail.

No doubt he will restate the Government's commitment to fighting inflation, pointing to the rise in interest rates during the summer as evidence of this. He may also refer to funding policy — or rather to debt repayment policy as we should now call it. But he is unlikely to unveil any significant monetary innovations.

More important than what the Chancellor has to say about monetary policy is what he does on fiscal policy. He may not refer much to this for the very reason that the decisions are still in the making. He will also want to keep his powder dry for the debates which follow the Autumn Statement. But the uncertainty over monetary policy makes it all the more important that those responsible for the public spending round should be seen to have taken some tough decisions.

As of last night, the Star Chamber was still standing by, ready to adjudicate on the outstanding issues in the Government's public spending plans for the next three years. It is unlikely that Mr John Major, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, will be able to reach agreement with every one of his colleagues bilaterally, but there are alternative ways of settling disputes — such as an interview with the Prime Minister — which could avoid the need for the more elaborate summary court.

The question for the markets is whether limiting the addition to the present plans for next year's spending to £3 billion or a little less, which is the Treasury's upper limit, constitutes "success" or not. The target which the Government has set itself for the past two years is to get as close as possible to the existing cash figures while making sure that it keeps general government expenditure, excluding privatization proceeds, falling as a proportion of GDP. There is an unfortunate imprecision about this.

While the bankers and merchants listen to the Chancellor's words on the money supply, they might profitably be reflecting on what would constitute a satisfactory outcome to the spending round. Decisions in the next few days may well determine whether the Chancellor can afford any tax cuts in the next Budget, or not.

Thorn buys lighting firm for £28m

By Our City Staff

Thorn EMI, the electronics group, is buying Howard Smith Industries, a lighting company based in Sydney, Australia.

The deal is believed to be worth around Aus\$60 million (£28 million).

Thorn has agreed to pay

Aus\$25.6 million above book value, which is subject to a final evaluation. Pre-tax profits were not disclosed, but it was announced that the company achieved turnover of Aus\$64.4 million last year.

The deal still depends on clearance by the Foreign

Investment Review Board. Thorn said the acquisition will provide a strong platform for a sales thrust in the markets for light fittings throughout the Asia Pacific region.

The company already claims to be market leader in light fittings in Australia.

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began October 17. Dealings end October 28. Contango day October 31. Settlement day November 7.
 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.
 (VOLUMES PAGE 28)

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If a number of letters this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stake. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Change	%	P/E
1	Bank of Ireland	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
2	Bank of Scotland	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
3	Bank of Wales	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
4	Bank of Cyprus	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
5	Bank of Greece	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
6	Bank of Italy	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
7	Bank of Spain	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
8	Bank of France	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
9	Bank of Germany	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
10	Bank of Japan	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
11	Bank of Korea	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
12	Bank of China	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
13	Bank of India	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
14	Bank of Australia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
15	Bank of New Zealand	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
16	Bank of South Africa	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
17	Bank of Argentina	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
18	Bank of Brazil	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
19	Bank of Mexico	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
20	Bank of Peru	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
21	Bank of Chile	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
22	Bank of Colombia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
23	Bank of Venezuela	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
24	Bank of Ecuador	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
25	Bank of Bolivia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
26	Bank of Paraguay	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
27	Bank of Uruguay	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
28	Bank of Cuba	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
29	Bank of Haiti	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
30	Bank of Dominican Republic	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
31	Bank of Puerto Rico	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
32	Bank of Costa Rica	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
33	Bank of Panama	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
34	Bank of Nicaragua	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
35	Bank of Honduras	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
36	Bank of Guatemala	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
37	Bank of El Salvador	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
38	Bank of Belize	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
39	Bank of Barbados	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
40	Bank of Guyana	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
41	Bank of Suriname	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
42	Bank of French Guiana	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
43	Bank of Martinique	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
44	Bank of Guadeloupe	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
45	Bank of Reunion	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
46	Bank of Mayotte	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
47	Bank of Comoros	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
48	Bank of Madagascar	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
49	Bank of Mauritania	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
50	Bank of Mali	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
51	Bank of Niger	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
52	Bank of Chad	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
53	Bank of Senegal	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
54	Bank of Gambia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
55	Bank of Guinea	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
56	Bank of Sierra Leone	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
57	Bank of Liberia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
58	Bank of Ivory Coast	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
59	Bank of Upper Volta	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
60	Bank of Benin	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
61	Bank of Togo	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
62	Bank of Benin	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
63	Bank of Nigeria	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
64	Bank of Cameroon	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
65	Bank of Gabon	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
66	Bank of Congo	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
67	Bank of Zaire	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
68	Bank of Angola	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
69	Bank of Namibia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
70	Bank of Botswana	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
71	Bank of Lesotho	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
72	Bank of Swaziland	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
73	Bank of Zimbabwe	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
74	Bank of Mozambique	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
75	Bank of Malawi	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
76	Bank of Zambia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
77	Bank of Tanzania	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
78	Bank of Kenya	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
79	Bank of Uganda	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
80	Bank of Rwanda	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
81	Bank of Burundi	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
82	Bank of Togo	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
83	Bank of Benin	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
84	Bank of Nigeria	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
85	Bank of Cameroon	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
86	Bank of Gabon	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
87	Bank of Congo	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
88	Bank of Zaire	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
89	Bank of Angola	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
90	Bank of Namibia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
91	Bank of Botswana	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
92	Bank of Lesotho	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
93	Bank of Swaziland	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
94	Bank of Zimbabwe	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
95	Bank of Mozambique	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
96	Bank of Malawi	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
97	Bank of Zambia	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
98	Bank of Tanzania	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
99	Bank of Kenya	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0
100	Bank of Uganda	Banking	10.00	0.00	0.0	10.0

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
 Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £3,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MIN	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

UNDATED

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

INDEX-LINKED

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

ELECTRICALS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

DRAPERY, STORES

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

FOODS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

HOTELS, CATERERS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

S-Z

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

OILS, GAS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

SHOES, LEATHER

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

TEXTILES

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

BREWERIES

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

BUILDING, ROADS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

E-K

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

L-R

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

M-T

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

N-O

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

P-Q

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

R-S

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

T-U

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

V-W

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

X-Y

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BREWERIES

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

BUILDING, ROADS

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

E-K

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

L-R

High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

M-T

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N-O

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P-Q

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R-S

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High Low Stock Price Change % P/E

[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 76.6 (day's range 76.4-76.8)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

OTHER STERLING RATES

Market rates for October 19

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1.7485-1.7555	1.7500-1.7510	0.53-0.53or	1.48-1.48or
Mexico	2.0874-2.1062	2.0874-2.1072	0.36-0.32or	0.68-0.68or
Amsterdam	3.5673-3.5773	3.5735-3.5773	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Bombay	3.1652-3.1702	3.1652-3.1702	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Copenhagen	12.1893-12.2271	12.1910-12.2220	4% 3%or	1.11-1.08or
Dublin	1.1890-1.1898	1.1890-1.1898	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Hong Kong	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
London	2.8655-2.8715	2.8655-2.8715	3or-3or	38-35or
Lyons	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Mexico	2.0874-2.1062	2.0874-2.1062	3or-3or	38-35or
Osaka	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Paris	1.1890-1.1898	1.1890-1.1898	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Perth	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Rangoon	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Singapore	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Sydney	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Tokyo	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Yokohama	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or
Zurich	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or

Premium or % Discount as noted

Argentina austral*	26.12-26.27
Australia dollar	2.1417-2.1458
Bahrain dinar	0.8580-0.8590
Brazil cruzeiro	72.826-76.77
Cypriot pound	0.8259-0.8350
Dollar markets	7.4924-7.5367
Green drachma	251.25-260.25
Hong Kong dollar	18.965-19.10
Indian rupee	15.15-15.70
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4915-0.4955
Malaysian ringgit	4.8800-4.7000
Manx pound	1.0000-1.0000
New Zealand dollar	2.8270-2.8442
Saudi Arabian riyal	5.4745-5.5075
Singapore dollar	3.2542-3.2567
S Africa rand (Rm)	7.0820-7.2202
Taiwan dollar	4.2760-4.2845
Yemen rial	2.1-2.12

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by Eitel and Barclays Bank HOPEX

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month	
Ireland	1.4788-1.4800	1.4788-1.4800	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	Italy 13.455-13.46.5
Singapore	2.0185-2.0191	2.0185-2.0191	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	Belgium (Cm) 37.88-37.91
Malaysia	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	Hong Kong 7.8115-7.8180
Switzerland	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	France franc 66.2225-66.2250
Sweden	1.1890-1.1895	1.1890-1.1895	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	Spain 118.85-118.90
Denmark	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	Austria 12.71-12.72
Norway	2.0750-2.0850	2.0750-2.0850	5-5or	1.48-1.48or	

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOPEX and Eitel.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rate %	Clearing Banks 12	Finance House 12
Discount Market Loans %		
3 months 11 1/4 %	11 1/4 %	11 1/4 %
Treasury Bill (Discount %)	3 months 11 1/4 %	3 months 11 1/4 %
Selling 2 3/4 %	11 1/4 %	11 1/4 %
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)	1 month 11 1/4 %	1 month 11 1/4 %
2 months 12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
3 months 12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
Local Authority Debentures	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
1 month 12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
6 months 12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
Local Authority Debentures	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
2 day 11 1/4 %	7 day 11 1/4 %	1 month 11 1/4 %
3 months 11 1/4 %	6 months 11 1/4 %	12 month 11 1/4 %
Local Authority Debentures	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
1 month 12 1/4 %	2 months 12 1/4 %	3 months 12 1/4 %
12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %	12 1/4 %
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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURE

TT-SE 100					Previous open interest 14605					Last					Close					Open interest 15150				
Dec 88	167.00	167.70	167.00	167.20	1705	Dec 88	50-01	90-08	90-08	Prev	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18				
Mar 89	167.00	167.70	167.00	167.20	14605	Mar 89	50-01	90-08	90-08	Prev	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18				
Three Month Sterling					Previous open interest 62280					Last					Close					Open interest 29673				
Dec 88	92.25	92.25	92.25	92.25	62280	Dec 88	92-19	92-29	92-29	Prev	92-19	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18				
Mar 89	92.25	92.25	92.25	92.25	62280	Mar 89	92-19	92-29	92-29	Prev	92-19	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18				
Dec 88	92.25	92.25	92.25	92.25	62280	Dec 88	92-19	92-29	92-29	Prev	92-19	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18				
Mar 89	92.25	92.25	92.25	92.25	62280	Mar 89	92-19	92-29	92-29	Prev	92-19	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18	92-18				
Three Month Eurodollar					Previous open interest 31423					Last					Close					Open interest 7540				
Dec 88	91.26	91.31	91.26	91.31	31423	Dec 88	105-45	105-59	105-59	Prev	105-38	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56				
Mar 89	91.26	91.31	91.26	91.31	31423	Mar 89	105-45	105-59	105-59	Prev	105-38	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56				
Dec 88	91.26	91.31	91.26	91.31	31423	Dec 88	105-45	105-59	105-59	Prev	105-38	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56				
Mar 89	91.26	91.31	91.26	91.31	31423	Mar 89	105-45	105-59	105-59	Prev	105-38	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56	105-56				
US Treasury Bond					Previous open interest 15150					Last					Close					Open interest 15150				
Dec 88	50-01	90-08	50-01	90-08	15150	Dec 88	50-01	90-08	90-08	Prev	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18				
Mar 89	50-01	90-08	50-01	90-08	15150	Mar 89	50-01	90-08	90-08	Prev	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18				
Dec 88	50-01	90-08	50-01	90-08	15150	Dec 88	50-01	90-08	90-08	Prev	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18				
Mar 89	50-01	90-08	50-01	90-08	15150	Mar 89	50-01	90-08	90-08	Prev	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18	50-18	90-18				

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX				LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
<p>COCOA W J May 1987-197 129-123 W J May 1977-76 127-685 May 85-92-3 May 85-82-8 May 85-82-8 May 85-82-8</p> <p>COFFEE W J May 1987-197 129-123 W J May 1977-76 127-685 May 85-92-3 May 85-82-8 May 85-82-8 May 85-82-8</p> <p>SUGAR W J May 1987-197 129-123 W J May 1977-76 127-685 May 85-92-3 May 85-82-8 May 85-82-8 May 85-82-8</p>				<p>Official prices/volates previous day Rodolf Wolf</p> <p>Cash 3 months Vol Tone</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-123 129-123 129-123</p> <p>1987-197 129-</p>			

Why Don't They ...



... A ...

PENSION FUND
MANAGEMENT

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Riding the challenges in
a year of great change

The last year has been one long headache for the pensions industry, writes *Bridie Pritchard*: new legislation, the stock market, changes in accounting periods and general industry trends. The fund managers have had to deal with the rigorous requirements of the Financial Services Act, while trying to achieve a creditable investment performance in shaky market conditions. The pension administrators have had to go back and sell pensions to their workforce in the light of opting out and the personal pensions schemes, as well as ensuring they adhere to the new disclosure requirements. Consultants and actuaries have been overworked in helping to keep everyone abreast of what is going on. Add to this changes in investment fashion and there is a recipe for potential chaos.

Fortunately this does not seem to have happened. Instead, a re-examination of the purpose of a pension fund has been carried out at all levels. Companies have looked at their own

schemes to ensure they match the requirements of their members; trustees have looked at the kind of performance they want from their fund managers; and fund managers have taken stock of clients' needs and their investment strategy.

And the onslaught continues. The Occupational Pensions Board is carrying out a major inquiry on balancing the interests of employers and members of schemes, looking at a number of contentious areas, such as if and when trust law is appropriate, and merger and acquisition situations. Then, Philip Chappell's latest offering, *Pensions and Privilege*, published by the Centre for Policy Studies, suggests changes in the tax treatment of pensions, as well as proposing that final salary-type schemes be abolished and each individual's pension related to contribution.

Many feel it is too soon to take on more legislative change until the full impact of recent changes have had their effect.



Celebrating success: some of the men who will benefit from Britain's biggest pension fund, British Coal. These miners, from Grimethorpe colliery, broke a shift production record with five tons of coal per man

It is well known that institutions own the majority of UK corporate equities (around 67 per cent) but an idea of the financial muscle behind pension funds has been made very clear in the last few weeks with British Coal Pension Funds' successful £560 million bid for the Industrial and General investment trust, owned by Tonic Remnant, writes *Bridie Pritchard*.

The bid for one of the UK's largest investment trusts was said by the pension fund not to be hostile, but TR referred the bid, unsuccessfully, to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as a matter of public interest, citing the differing tax treatment of the pension funds and its small investors as one of the grounds. British Coal's pension fund, the UK's largest, is divided into two parts, as is common in schemes on a staff and works basis: the Staff Superannuation Scheme and the Mineworkers' Membership of the Mineworkers' scheme comprises 114,500 contributors, 259,090 pensioners and 262,090 deferred pensioners (early leavers). Figures for the staff scheme are 33,144, 63,708 and 14,456 respectively. Annual contributions for both schemes total nearly £500 million. Both schemes have their investments managed in-house and, according to its last annual report, fared better than some of the City investment houses in anticipating last October's crash. The Mineworkers' pension scheme built up liquidity to almost £50 m by September and then spent the money buying equities after the crash more cheaply.

The table shows a high propor-

tion of nationalized, or former nationalized industries, in the top ten. The Post Office and British Telecom were originally in one scheme until BT was split off. Both new companies wanted to continue using the same investment managers as they had done until the break up, and a new department was set up as Postel Investment Management Ltd, which is in all essentials a merchant bank.

And it must come as no surprise that Barclays Bank investment

manager is Barclays de Zoete Wedd, and National Westminster's is County NatWest Investment Management.

The Electricity Supply Pension Scheme uses Schroder Investment Management for strategy; Lazard Security for securities. Its property value is Jones Lang Wootton, property portfolio manager Debenhams, Lewson and Chinnocks.

Pension schemes are overseen by a board of trustees. For the large schemes there is generally representation from both the

management and the workforce. In the case of British Rail, for example, there are 12 trustees, six nominated by the BR board and six by trade unions.

Each of ICI's two schemes has a trustee board comprising 20 members split between management and non-management.

The Occupational Pensions Board is conducting an inquiry into balancing the interests of employers and scheme members and one of the areas it is looking at is the composition of trustee

boards. Several of the submissions from interested parties have suggested equal representation with employers; others have advocated a completely independent trustee.

Yet others have pointed to the requirements of trust law and feel that this should be adequate protection as the trustee's duty is to look after the interests of all members of the scheme, (current, deferred and pensioners).

Administration of pension schemes is one of the headaches for a company, particularly when the

government keeps changing the rules, as this one seems to be doing at the moment.

Some companies with good systems prefer to do it in-house, such as the Post Office and the Milk Marketing Board. Others ask external administrators to deal with it. Sometimes it is the firm of actuaries or consultants to the scheme which provides this service. But one scheme, the Merchant Navy Pension Administration Ltd, is so proud of the way it conducts its own affairs that it is

now offering its services generally.

Some schemes appoint a global custodian or master trustee to oversee things such as safekeeping, settlement, dividend collection, foreign exchange services and so on.

Pension funds are now more divergent than they have ever been, both because some schemes are becoming increasingly mature and secondly because of the increasingly available range of options available to manage them.

TOP 30 UK
PENSION FUNDS

	£ million
British Coal	9,137.7
British Telecom plc	8,734.3
Electricity Supply	6,088.0
Post Office	6,335.0
British Railways Board	5,588.0
British Gas plc	5,150.0
Unwobles Superannuation Scheme	4,600.0
Barclays Bank plc	4,420.0
British Petroleum Corp plc	3,958.0
British Steel Corp	3,650.0
ICI	3,576.0
National Westminster Bank	3,419.0
Shell	3,263.8
British Airways	2,938.0
Lloyds Bank	2,804.9
Unilever plc	2,255.0
British Broadcasting Corp	2,132.9
Strathclyde Regional Council	2,040.0
Water Authorities	2,018.0
Merchant Navy	1,973.0
Lucas Industries plc	1,900.0
Greater Manchester County	1,877.0
British Aerospace	1,870.0
Midland Bank plc	1,811.1
Ford Motor Co Ltd	1,796.0
Bovril Group	1,748.0
Prudential Corp	1,632.1
London Resituary Body	1,563.0
General Electric Co plc	1,551.8
West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities	1,518.0

Source: Pension Funds and Their Advisers, 1988

For almost 10 years pension fund managers enjoyed unparalleled success. For most of the 1980s the strategy was clear: invest in equities, and stand back and watch the money grow. Average returns of 25 per cent and more could not be faulted, writes *Cliff Feltham*.

Fuelled by the removal of UK exchange controls in 1979, there was a massive surge in the proportion of assets being channelled into overseas equities. From 8 per cent at the start of the decade, it grew to more than 20 per cent. Even in the middle of last year, when some fund managers were admitting that the bull markets could not go on indefinitely, funds were still pouring money into UK and foreign share markets.

As the third quarter ended, another year of record returns was in prospect, with some funds holding as much as 85 per cent of their money in equity markets. Then, as everyone knows, the October crash of 1987 wiped out

the bulk of the year's gains.

Equity markets everywhere plummeted, leaving the average fund showing a return at the end of the year of just 3.4 per cent, according to the biggest performance measurement service, WM Company.

UK equity markets in fact showed a return of around 7 per cent - way below the 20 per cent-plus gains of earlier years, but in the circumstances a creditable outcome. The real culprits were the overseas markets, with a negative return of 18 per cent.

During the final quarter of the year, UK funds unloaded about £2.5 billion of foreign shares, cutting their average overseas exposure to 14 per cent of total portfolios.

It was the two unlikeliest sectors, gilts and property, that showed the best performance. Property, neglected as managers climbed aboard the equities bandwagon, after years in the doldrums

finished with a 20 per cent return - its best showing since 1979. Gilts, too, did well, with final a return of 16 per cent. However, the average manager had only approximately 13 per cent of his portfolio in gilts and 9 per cent in property.

So, did 1987 turn out to be an indictment of the fund manager, assured of success when markets

Courage needed
on portfolios

were going his way, but sorely exposed and unprepared when they changed suddenly? In retrospect, it is easy to say that too many experienced professional fund managers erred on the side of pursuing easy money. But it would have taken courage for an investment manager to weight his portfolio on the side of caution and invest more in safe investments.

such as gilts, when his peers were being toasted by their trustees for notching up double-digit gains on the roaring equity markets.

The real measure depends on the period over which a manager should be judged. There has been strong criticism in the City of the policy of short-termism, whereby an institution, say, following a takeover bid, sells shares to make a quick profit rather than supporting the management and taking a longer view.

Peter Warrington, a director of WM Company, which tracks the performance of 2,900 portfolios, explains the October crash as a hiccup. "Although the market crashed 25 per cent, it was only wiping out the gains it had made between April and July, so for the year as a whole there was still an increase of 7 per cent in UK equities."

He points out that funds had repatriated their money only to discover now that the markets in

Japan, the Far East and the United States have recovered more than the UK markets.

Mr Warrington says that despite the heavy losses resulting from the crash, there has been no fundamental change in attitude. "Managers have come to the conclusion that October was a slight aberration and equities are still the natural home for funds."

He points out that although property has shown a resurgence in popularity it remains an illiquid investment. Indeed, there are signs that the exodus from overseas equities set off by the crash has stopped and some fund managers are now buying again.

However, some trustees are likely to look upon any reinvestment overseas back to pre-crash levels with concern if not alarm.

So far this year the evidence suggests overseas stock markets have been a pretty good haven for UK investors.

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Planning the future

Bridie Pritchard and the fund managers analyse the investment scene after the October crash

Fund managers have not lost faith in equities despite last October's events. The resounding message from the investment management groups is still that equities are the best investment vehicle for long-term funds to meet long-term commitments.

Stephen Tanner, Kleinwort Greaveson's compliance officer, feels strongly that the past year should be taken in context — that the year ending July 19, 1987, had provided the biggest ever rise, at 50 per cent. He thinks that most pension fund trustees have taken the decline of the market appropriately, as coming after a tremendous performance in the equity markets.

He pointed out that, despite the "correction", the UK market was up on the year.

According to Mr Tanner, there are two schools of thought in the market: the managers who are waiting for the second crash to happen, and those who back equities in the long term, still seeing them as good value with returns of 4.25 to 4.5 per cent.

Jim McCaughan, a director at Phillips & Drew Fund Management, hopes that last year's events will prove to be an antidote to short-termism. An example of short-term thinking was the way, in the middle of 1987, funds in aggregate bought equities at the prevailing high levels, chasing short-term returns rather than investment value.

The Combined Actuarial Performance Services (CAPS) figures for the end of June 1988 show that investment strategies of most funds have not changed very much. These are median figures for the funds which CAPS monitors.

The accompanying table indicates a move away from overseas investments and into UK equities and cash. Alan Wilcock, the client manager at CAPS, says the relatively large proportion of assets being held as cash is an indication that confidence has not fully returned to the markets. Managers are still waiting for the right time to put money back into the markets, particularly overseas markets.

Mr Wilcock pointed out that UK pension funds' performance overseas, at -9.3

per cent for 1987 with the median fund's performance of -18.3 per cent, was considerably worse than the world index excluding the UK. Some of the difference was accounted for, he said, by different weightings in the index and the way pension fund overseas portfolios were constructed.

The index was weighted by capitalization and so held a larger proportion of Japanese stocks, whereas pension funds tended to hold more US stock.

An immediate reaction to the crash was for funds to sell overseas stocks, Mr Tanner said. Some had left this as cash and others had returned some of it to the UK market, where the fundamentals seemed sounder.

Another worry for pension funds in addition to the overseas markets' volatility has been currency risk. The events of the year have discouraged some managers from

woolly "top quartile performance". This, the industry feels, is a good thing.

Pensions schemes need to match their assets and their liabilities (the amounts of money that will be needed in the long term to meet payments to pensioners and so on). Different schemes have different profiles. Are there a lot of members close to retirement? Is the sponsoring company in an expanding or contracting situation? What is the funding position of the scheme — is there a deficit or a surplus? And so on.

Schemes may now also be constructed in different ways — based not just on final salary but instead on the amount of contributions the members pay in, on money purchase or a mixture of both.

Risk may mean different things to different schemes: for some it is simply the risk of assets not matching liabilities in the long term, for others it may have something to do with market volatility. This latter definition is partly a result of pension costs now having to appear on company balance sheets, both here and in the US, following accounting standards SSAP 24 and FAS 87 respectively.

John Wigley, a partner at R. Watson & Sons, consulting actuaries, says: "Asset and liability planning may seem like flavour of the month, but it is long overdue. Fund managers are now being given a much clearer brief of what is required of them in terms of risk and performance."

Funds are increasingly split in a variety of ways — on the theory that if you hire someone who is a specialist in a particular area with a good track record you should achieve above average performance. The arrangements may include an index fund or a balanced fund as a core, with other specialist managers for overseas equities or property and so on. Risk also may be diversified, by picking complementary fund managers with different styles: one manager may be chosen for his stockpicking ability, another for his good asset-allocation record.

Both Jeremy Clegg of Baring and Ms Davis of Schroder argue the case of the single



Witnessing the crash: Stock Exchange dealers in London

balanced manager cogently. It is, Ms Davis says, the lowest cost approach, and it has administrative simplicity. For every additional fund manager you employ, you have to pay an additional set of fees in addition to the cost of extra administration generated.

One answer to the multiple manager situation is for a fund to appoint a "global custodian" or "master trustee" to be responsible for all administration and custody matters, such as checking that all dividends are paid promptly, and investment accounting. Then, there can be no accusations of a pension fund trading as different managers concurrently buy and sell the same stock. This is very common in the US where there is a much greater concentration on specialist managers. But again, cost has to be taken into account as it is another service that has to be paid for.

However, these extra management fees must be put in perspective and are not that significant if the performance is good. Schemes with more than £100 million or three managers might consider the global custody approach, but that could depend entirely on the nature of the scheme's internal administration, which may well be able to cope.

One of the likely consequences of last year is an

increase in management fees. This is because of the costs of compliance with the Financial Services Act. None of the managers to whom I spoke was able to put an exact figure on the cost of compliance — "enormous" and "horrendous" were two words frequently used. There are the direct costs of membership fees, printing costs for new literature with the appropriate form of words, the salaries of compliance officers, lawyers' fees and computer system changes. But there are also the hidden costs of management time taken up with sorting out the fine print, and the loss of potential income that would have been generated by those people now engaged in compliance. Estimates vary according to the size of manager and range from £0.5 million to £2 million.

Fund management in Britain is a comparatively cheap service compared with the US. A recent survey by the US consultants Greenwich Associates found that UK pension funds pay less than half as much as their American counterparts. It also highlighted the trend of using more outside managers, with an increase from 2.3 five years ago to 3.4 this year. Over the same period, the number of funds with more than six managers has increased from 7 per cent to 17 per cent.

The battle to keep staff in company schemes

Fears that hordes would leave company pension plans earlier this year when employees were given the right to opt out seem, as yet, unfounded. But it remains to be seen whether a continuous drip will eventually wreak havoc, writes Bridie Pritchard.

Employees' fears were grounded in both benevolence and a sense of self-preservation. The employees, particularly those with contributory schemes, were concerned that employees would opt out and would fail to do anything to save for retirement — that they would be grateful for the few extra pounds in their pockets immediately and suffer the consequences when it was too late. They also feared the thought of the administration involved in dealing with personal pensions, and particularly the number of providers that could be involved.

Companies set out to defend their schemes from outside pressures. Many started with an examination of their current scheme, asking whether or not it gave employees what they needed. Did it, for example, provide early leavers with fair benefits on leaving? Were the conditions of eligibility right? Should part-time workers be included? Should there be a waiting period before employees could join the scheme? What provisions for early retirement were available? And so on.

Once a scheme's objectives were decided, the ways of fulfilling them had to be worked out. Some schemes have reduced the qualifying period or made eligibility immediate; others have widened the category of employees who may join. These changes were adopted particularly in companies with large numbers of part-time staff.

Some companies set out to make their pension packages more attractive to the lower-paid younger members of staff, who are generally more mobile. The aim was to provide a lower cost option, with better benefits for early leavers than is usual with a final salary scheme. This was usually done in one of two ways.

One scheme offers a money purchase, where benefits are based on contributions paid in, alongside a final salary scheme, where benefits are based on a proportion of salary earned prior to retirement. Grand Metropolitan and Rank Hovis McDougall took this

route and introduced a new contracted-out money purchase (Comp) arrangement.

The alternative is a hybrid scheme which is a mixture of the two. It is usually a final salary scheme with money purchase underpinning. The underpinning should mean that on leaving or retirement an employee receives what a money purchase scheme would have provided if that figure is greater than the final salary-based calculation.

The disadvantages of hybrid schemes are that they are more costly to the employer, more difficult to administer and harder to explain to potential members. Some employers also dislike them

Most employees seem to be staying in their company schemes, believing that if you can get the employer to contribute to your pension in addition to your own payments you're better off

feeling they discriminate in favour of the early leaver at the expense of the long stayer.

It would seem that most employees are staying in their company schemes, generally following the rule of thumb that if you can get your employer to contribute to your pension in addition to your own payments you must be better off.

According to Ron Spill, the pensions publicity manager at Legal & General, the number of those with no pension provision at all is a large enough market without taking on the difficulties of selling one to a member of a company plan because of "best advice" and "know your customer" requirements. A personal pension salesman would need to understand fully the provisions of the company scheme and be able to compare it with a personal pension in the light of an individual's circumstances.

Banks, building societies, unit trust and investment groups are now allowed to sell pension products. Two new entrants, Fidelity and Roth-

schild, have come up with very different approaches, though both are marketing straightforward investment-linked products.

Peter Kyre, the manager at N. M. Rothschild Asset Management, said it was "a major departure from its image, from being a wholesaler to a retailer. But the combination of the acknowledgement that Britain was now a wealthier place, with individuals having more money to spend and invest, and the changes in legislation, which allowed a greater freedom, prompted the review in our stance to the market".

Fidelity is going for a very different slice of the market. Its Select Personal Pensions range has a minimum contribution of £220 a month or £2,000 a year. Alan Ainsworth, the executive director, pensions, said: "We shall be specifically targeting occupational groups for whom personal pensions are most appropriate — those who are younger, well paid, more mobile and highly skilled." It is going for the yuppie market. Both companies sell through the intermediary network.

The other new providers — the banks and the building societies — have a high street distribution channel. Building societies, fall into two categories — those that have ties with an insurance company, such as Abbey National with Friends Provident, and those that have elected to provide independent advice and would act in the same way as an intermediary. Abbey National offers a Friends Provident scheme in an own-brand way.

Building societies are also able to offer deposit-based pensions but these have come in for much criticism as, though they are very safe, performance reflects this and there are worries that they may not provide an adequate income in retirement because of factors like inflation.

Mr Spill thinks it is likely that there will be another burst of activity in personal pensions advertising after Christmas to encourage people to sign up before April in order to qualify for the bonus for contracting out of Schemes. Company pension schemes should bear this in mind.

The need for them to continue explaining the benefits of a company scheme has not gone away, and the pressures may get worse.

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The task facing trustees

Subject to obeying the law, pension fund trustees are duty bound to put the interest of their beneficiaries above all other interests

Invest intelligently and report regularly. These are the watchwords of the occupational pension fund trustee, writes Rodney Hobson.

Many duties were clarified in the cause célèbre of pension fund investment, the legendary judgement which, while applying specifically to making provisions for miners' workers in their old age, stated the general principle:

"The duty of the trustees to exercise their powers in the best interests of the present and future beneficiaries of the trust, holding the scales impartially between different classes of beneficiaries, is paramount. They must, of course, obey the law, but subject to that they must put the interests of their beneficiaries first."

Trustees must not allow their personal views to affect their judgements. A trustee who objects to apartheid cannot veto investment in South Africa on purely political grounds; totalitarians must consider investing in breweries just as non-smokers cannot pass the cigarette makers for social reasons; trustees for electricity workers cannot turn down British Gas shares simply to avoid giving succour to a rival.

To get the best return, trustees must decide if the

company pension fund should be run in-house or by an external manager. Either way they must decide how far they want to participate in investment decisions and strategy. In particular, they should consider their attitude to higher risk investments.

Trustees have to bear in mind that the interests of the fund may be very different from those of the sponsoring company. Pension funds need a long-term view rather than short-term gain.

Staffing levels have to be settled, especially if the fund is run in-house. Stock markets and foreign exchange transactions are conducted practically every minute of the day most days of the year. While the fund will not want to pay the wages of surplus staff, having too small an operation can lead to costly mistakes.

While having the advice of their pension fund consultants and actuaries, trustees opting for outside management bear the responsibility for selecting an investment company. They

need a list of questions to ask potential fund managers.

The National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF) advises: "Since they will be reposing a great deal of trust in their manager, they must feel at ease with their choice."

Trustees should ensure that they have a systematic and clear way of agreeing their investment policy with the managers. They should meet managers regularly and receive written reports. The NAPF urges that there should be a formal meeting at least once a year at which the external managers are scrutinized at length. On the other hand, too many constraints will inhibit the managers and are likely to be reflected in poor performance.

If the trustees decide to dispense with a manager, the NAPF advises them to be sure of their ground. The cause should be clearly identified and understood by both parties. Once a decision to dismiss has been taken, the trustees should act promptly and decisively.

Trustees have a duty to keep members of the fund informed. Some information has to be supplied as a matter of course while other details must by law be given on request to members, beneficiaries, recognized trade unions and, in some cases, to spouses and prospective members. Trustees are also obliged to allow the scheme auditor access to all documents, information and explanations he requires.

The availability of the annual report must be drawn to the attention of all those concerned and a copy of the latest report must be available free of charge or request unless one has already been issued to that person. If a written request is received for information the relevant material should be made available as soon as possible.

Basic information about the scheme must be made available to new members within 13 weeks of their joining.

● The NAPF, 12-18 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH, has leaflets of help to trustees. R. Watson and Sons, consulting actuaries, of Watson House, London Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 9PQ, have a publication of benefit to trustees and members on disclosure of information to members and beneficiaries.

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PENSION FUND MANAGEMENT/3

Providers in profusion

The new pension providers are healthy competition for occupational schemes. But employers reckon to offer better security writes Malcolm Brown



The National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF), like everyone else in the pensions world, is caught up in the whirlwind of change. On July 1, employees were given the choice of opting out of employers' pension schemes and into portable, personal pensions. The idea was to remove the penalty of changing jobs. On leaving a job, instead of having to close one pension scheme and open another with the new employer, the person simply buys his (or her) own pension and takes it with him wherever he goes. The new pensions are provided by insurance companies, unit trusts, banks, building societies and friendly societies.

The changes have forced the NAPF to re-examine its role. The NAPF is the trade association which represents the interests of employers in relation to their occupational pension schemes. It is made up of around 1,200 ordinary members (including most of the big employers, from IBM to Barclays Bank) and 300 or so advisers — people such as accountants, actuaries and pensions consultants.

Michael Elton, who became director general of the NAPF last year — after 16 years as chief executive of the Association of British Travel Agents — says that with the introduction of personal pensions employers are operating in a more competitive environment.

One only has to look around bank and building society branches to see what he means. The personal pension providers (many of them already offering a range of financial services to the public) are pouring millions of pounds into trying to persuade us all that personal pensions are good for us. Companies which have quietly run their own occupational pension schemes for years, taking low key approaches to employees, are now having to learn how to counter a barrage of information from without.

They are having to make their own schemes better. "It sharpens the focus of NAPF's activity," says Mr Elton. "It's a more sharply commercial activity now." The association started its own publicity drive last year. Putting its rather staid image to one side, it made a video, *When I'm 64*, starring comedian Lenny Henry, and produced lots of information packs for employers. This year there has been a new handbook on the pluses and minuses of employers' pensions and personal pensions.

The main message the NAPF wants to get across, says Mr Elton, is to look before you leap. It welcomes the new competitive environment, and the increased choice which that gives to employees. However, the association must ensure, he says, that the 11 million people who have to make the choice do so from a basis of knowledge. If they do, he is confident that the great majority will choose to remain in occupational schemes on their merits. The element of choice is good, he says, but adds, rather chillingly: "If you get it wrong, you destroy the last quarter or third of your life."

His own colours are nailed firmly to the mast — in favour of occupational schemes — but there was a period last year when the association had to think very clearly who it was representing. This was because among those in membership as employers who had their own pension schemes were some of the big building societies — the very organizations that would be providing the alternative personal pension plans.

Should the NAPF be a broad church and represent all interests (employers pension schemes and personal pension schemes) with equal weight? Mr Elton thought that was unrealistic. "We've taken the view that we should represent the interests of employers vis-à-vis occupational schemes, promote the interest of

occupational schemes. Where there's a clear commercial clash of interest, then we would not pretend to represent both interests. Otherwise, you'd become impotent."

The building societies, as it happens, seem quite happy with the arrangement, and have stayed in the association. Mr Elton does not worry that the building societies, wearing their employer's hats, will be, as it were, a spy at the table of the NAPF's councils when the issue of employer's versus personal pensions comes up. "It doesn't matter. It doesn't matter at all. We've got nothing to hide."

Has NAPF's publicity worked? Certainly, Mr Elton says, the balance of press cuttings over the past nine or so months seem overwhelmingly supportive of company schemes.

He hesitates to guess what proportion of those in employer's pensions will, in the end, move over to personal pensions. "Nobody knows. A year ago people were talking about 30 per cent. That went down to 10 or 5 per cent in recent months. Whose crystal ball is best? Nobody thinks there's going to be a large migration from employer schemes. I think people leaving will be almost minimal. The problem will be new, young people not joining... and in many cases they may be quite right. They're the category 'young, mobile, unmarried, no responsibilities'." For the rest, he returns repeatedly to security as the

6 The element of choice is good... but if you get it wrong, you destroy the last quarter of your life

Michael Elton, above

principal advantage of employer's schemes. The bedrock of such schemes is the so-called "final salary scheme", where the employer promises to provide each employee with a pension based on his or her level of earnings at or close to retirement. "If high inflation returned, or if annuity rates were low at the time somebody retires, or there was a crash on the stock market like there was last October... in those three circumstances, if you're in a final salary scheme you're not affected, whereas if you have a personal pension you are. The effect is potentially disastrous for you."

"With the occupational pension, the risk is the employer's. The employer promises to pay you (if you've worked there for 40 years) two-thirds of your final salary. If any of those things happen your employer has to meet that promise. If you have a personal pension and any of those things happen, let alone all of them, the risk is with you." The dangers were underscored by the crash of 1987. "There was some considerable value in the world being reminded that shares can go down as well as up," says Mr Elton. "I think it was a healthy reminder."

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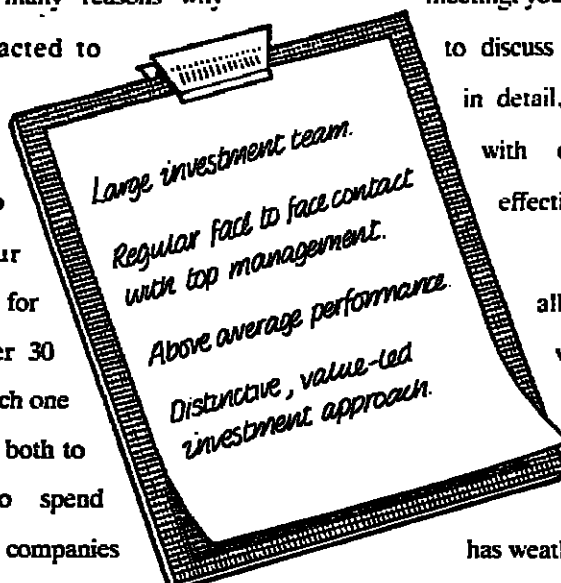
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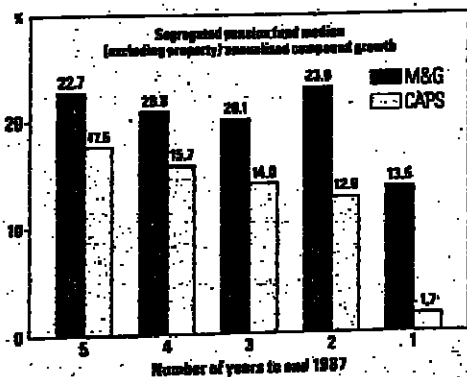
A more remarkable result

M&G 22.7% p.a.
CAPS 17.5% p.a.

Median fund (excluding property) over 5 years to end 1987

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For further details of M&G's pension fund management, please contact

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Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BD. Telephone 01-626 4588

73/7N



THE STORY

The MAN who UNDERSTOOD the need to readdress RISK versus PERFORMANCE.



Vivienne handed him his tea. After a year in the wilderness Redford had small success once more.

REDFORD leant back in his chair and thought about the last year. It was a full 12 months since the Crash and upon reflection a lot had happened. Redford was the Finance Director with overall responsibility for the Company's Pension Fund and hesitantly admitted to himself that the direction of the Pension Fund had lost its way.

He suddenly sat bolt upright. The thought had just occurred to him — could it all happen again. He thought of the issues. The market had only partially recovered, there had been a dramatic divergence in performance by country, hadn't there? Did he have enough in fixed income?

Redford's thoughts went round in circles. Then he made a decision. The time had come to relook at the whole of his Fund Managers' investment strategy. But where to start?

He got some paper out from his drawer and started to write down his criteria for a fund management company.

He would look for a broader view of investment, realising at the same time the need for a truly Global Asset Allocation policy. This would entail both active and passive management of overseas funds, so they'd need a strong network

of offices in the major world markets. This time he would go for one of the big boys.

Who would he go for? He'd had a lot of approaches from a number of companies. He leant back once more, smiled to himself, reached for the phone and dialled 01-234 2482. "I'd like to speak to Les Komaromy please."

TO BE CONTINUED.

CITICORP

Scrimgeour Citicorp (Investment Management) Ltd.

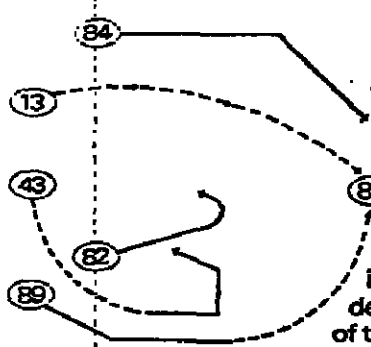
Scrimgeour Citicorp (Investment Management) Ltd is a subsidiary and appointed representative of Citicorp Investment Bank Ltd which, being a member of ESMA and IML, has approved this advertisement.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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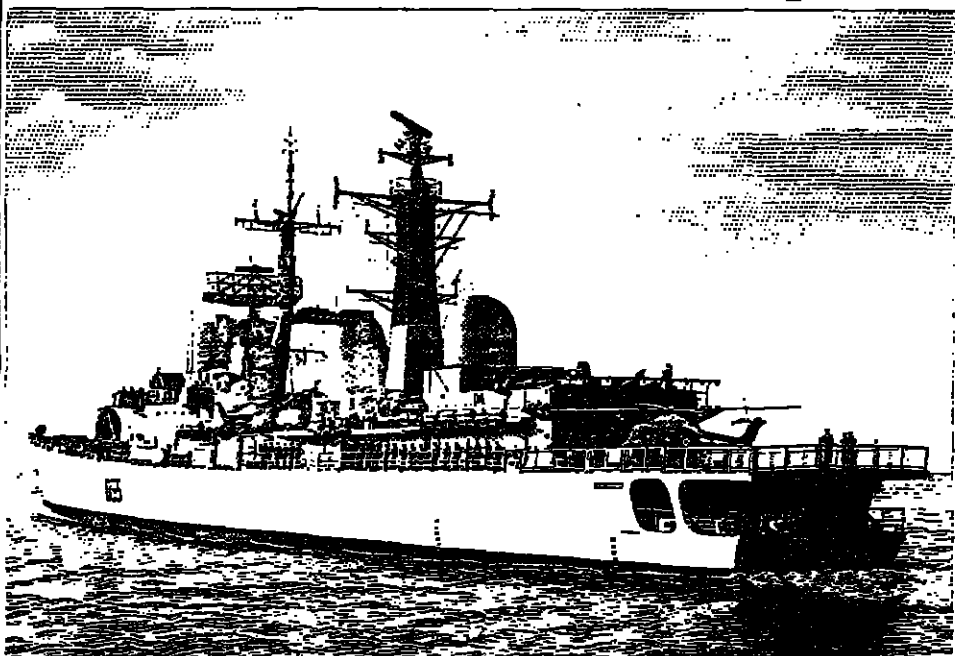
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THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES

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NEWS WORLD

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THE TIMES

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

October 20, 1988

John Yates, an employment specialist, offers a structured solution to all who will suffer from the shortage of teenagers

Newspaper headlines highlighting the fall in the number of 16- to 19-year-olds that will occur between now and 1995 tell us we are "running out of teenagers" and that "professionals are worried as numbers of young people are set to drop". The articles set out to inform the business community about this "demographic time bomb" that will affect recruitment and training of young people. Most companies will be looking for practical suggestions on how to deal with this issue.

Let me try to provide some ideas, first setting the changes in their wider context. First, the fall in numbers will not just affect employers of young people. It will also be an issue for schools, Youth Training Schemes, further education colleges, polytechnics and universities. The Education Reform Act will compound the issue, not least because it will give greater autonomy to individual schools and colleges - for example, local authorities will no longer be able to limit numbers admitted to schools below their design capacity.

Second, while there have been - and will continue to be - dramatic changes in the nature of industries and jobs available, similar changes are taking place in education provision for those aged 16 to 19. New courses of one, two and more years' duration, increased flexibility in teaching and greater relevance of courses to the world of work are only some approaches. It is likely that more young people

will be attracted towards continuing education beyond 16 because of these changes.

Third, the changes in financial support for those aged 16 to 19 include the removal of entitlement to income support of 16- to 18-year-olds, proposals related to universities, polytechnics and colleges, dismantling of most Wages Councils and thus removal of wage protection for young people, and the Government's view that high levels of wages paid to young people have contributed to youth unemployment.

Finally, there is evidence that in many parts of the country more jobs are currently available for young people and there is also much more help and encouragement for young people who are considering establishing their own business or working for themselves.

The effect of these changes is simple. There will be, in total, far more opportunities in education, training and employment for those aged 16, 17 and 18 than there will be young people available. Opportunities may not always be exactly what young people say they want but there will be a range of options in every part of the country.

In a free market system this wealth of choice could see "naked commercialism" creeping into the approach of some organizations, be they schools, colleges, employers or Youth Training Schemes. In their attempt to maintain or increase their market share of 16- to 19-year-olds, institutional in-



The market research answer to the 1990s

terest could well override the interests of young people and the community as a whole.

This then is the wider context. Industry and commerce has to respond to the issues raised by such trends and changes. Small businesses may have to react differently to multinationals but, for both, market research at local level should be the starting point.

Some of the aspects that need to be addressed are as follows: ● Establish the local facts of the 16-19 population fall during the next few years. This will vary considerably, both within a region and also within a county. For example, in Cheshire some areas show a limited fall while others are much more dramatic.

● Identify what options actually exist for young people at 16, 17 and 18 in your local area. It may be that there are vocational courses in schools and colleges as well as Youth Training Schemes and full-time employment opportunities with or without training all in the same "job" area - clerical work is a good example. This could lead to competition

between institutions for what will be similar young people.

● Obtain details of comparative rates of pay within similar occupations for young people in your locality to ensure knowledge of how the wages you offer compare with other companies.

● Examine what young people with different qualifications currently do and are likely to do at 16, 17 and 18 in your area. For example, the vast majority with five good GCSE passes continue in education. Check the attitude of and indeed knowledge held by young people of the various options facing them.

● Identify what local links exist between industry and education. Participating may bring benefits.

● Find out what is the image held by young people and their parents about your firm, industry or profession - it may be a surprise! How to do this? There are very many sources of information and consultancy in every locality. The three key starting points are: 1. Your local careers service, which will be able to provide

details of numbers of pupils, destinations of school-leavers, attitudes and aspirations of 16- to 18-year-olds, and details of the local industrial scene. In addition, they will be able to direct you to key sources of other information.

2. Education-industry groups. In many parts of the country there are well established groups that exist to improve mutual understanding between education and industry and commerce. Your local careers service can give details.

3. Local employer networks, recently established to provide a coherent employers' voice to the education service. There are now more than 100 such groups in the country and the local Training Commission office can supply addresses.

Action follows market research. Once a clear local picture is identified action plans should be formulated. Assuming companies definitely wish to recruit young people and traditionally have looked to the 16-18 age group, there will be three possible strategies to deal with the falling numbers:

● Compete with other institutions and companies to maintain their market share of traditional recruits from reducing total numbers.

● Adopt a flexible approach to the whole 16-18 age group. For instance, where 16-year-olds have previously been recruited, look towards 17- or 18-year-olds with "non-traditional" qualifications or experience and implement equal opportunities policies in a positive way.

● Look towards recruiting a different age group, retrain existing staff or the unemployed, and move to flexible staffing approaches.

Whichever strategy is adopted the results of market research will inform action.

Medium- to small-sized companies are more likely to be faced with potentially more problems than major organizations, which can adopt a range of approaches. Some very practical steps that smaller businesses can take are as follows:

● Get involved with work experience for pupils in schools. This can

have benefits for smaller companies in that young recruits can be found via participation in the scheme and effective links with local schools can be made.

● Provide improved training and progression for young workers, possibly training permanent employees in the YTS framework, as opposed to just seeking a pair of hands. Publicize this approach to schools, your own employees and the careers service.

● Try to identify training vacancies well before school-leaving dates, ensure rates of pay are competitive, and publicize these details to schools via your local careers service.

● Examine the one-year and two-year sixth-form courses in schools and colleges to see if the students are suitable - that is, non-traditional recruits at 17 or 18.

● The "image" of your firm or profession or industry is crucial to today's sophisticated teenagers. Is it appropriate? Can it be improved, particularly at local level, by visits, talks to teachers' groups, involvement in the secondment of teachers to companies etc?

● Participate if one of the inner-city compacts - schemes in which companies guarantee jobs and training to pupils who satisfy defined criteria while in school - is running in your locality.

● Use your local careers service much more in a consultancy role rather than just as a "young person-finding agency".

John Yates is the Cheshire county careers officer

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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HORIZONS

Why that jargon has to go

Roger Jones finds a man with a mission to improve standards in manuals intended for computer users

If you are a layman with a non-technical background, you must have come across manuals that seem designed to confront you with your own ignorance rather than help you use a piece of apparatus effectively. The computer age, in particular, has spawned a generation of writers who appear to assume that every computer user has a PhD in Information Technology.

Why, I often wonder, must technical writers seek to impress with technical jargon instead of resorting to everyday terms? I was delighted to find someone in the business of technical writing prepared to agree with me that a lot of such documentation could be improved.

"We treat jargon as a joke," Keith Mason, a training manager with Phoenix Training, says. "We don't use jargon in our documentation because we want people to be able to understand it." If you cannot understand the documentation, he reasons, how can you possibly decide whether a product is fit for the purpose for which it is intended? Furthermore, more confusion can be com-

pounded if instructions are ambiguous or incomplete. For, although it is reasonable to assume technical expertise on the part of the buyer or user in the Western world (which can compensate for such deficiencies), elsewhere bad, incomprehensible writing could lead to misunderstanding.

Dr Mason's mission in life is to improve standards of technical communication, and one of his tasks is training technical writers to write comprehensibly. He designed and ran a software documentation diploma course in a local authority college for six years at a time when ICL was the only other organization offering training for technical writers at the graduate level.

ICL disbanded its 100-strong publication centre in 1985 and its course was abandoned. Fortunately, however, three of the company's top publications man-

A profession with offers good prospects

agers recognized that technical documentation services were a highly marketable commodity and decided to set up their own organization, Phoenix Technical Publications.

In three years they have risen to enjoy considerable success. Today, their activities embrace the writing of technical manuals, supplying contract staff for clients' projects, technical copywriting,

translation, and training in technical authorship and communication. Dr Mason's particular interest.

Because there is a shortage of technical writers, it is a profession that offers good prospects to anyone with the right skills. "It's difficult to recruit good people because there has been no suitable training available for graduates since ICL gave up its technical authorship training scheme," Dr Mason says. "Also, technical authorship is an unknown career. It's only just recently that a career development pattern has started to develop."

Now it is possible to move up the profession to become a publication manager, a team leader responsible for as many as a dozen authors, or a senior author. There is plenty of scope in the international sphere with opportunities to earn in excess of £35,000 a year. Some of Dr Mason's colleagues have moved from their British base to assignments in the balmier climate of the south of France and Australia.

What kind of person makes a good technical writer? In Dr Mason's opinion, he or she needs to be able to write, and ideally should have some understanding of the customer who will be using the manuals. Technical knowledge, while useful, is not crucial. "I take the view that it is easier to train a natural writer than to take a technician and teach him how to write," he says.

An extra dimension is added to technical writing by translation,

and Dr Mason believes translators need to be fully involved with product development.

"Technical authors and translators need to work closely together," he asserts. "One needs to regard the production of documentation in terms of a project that has to be managed. It is not just a case of writing your manual and then handing it over to a translation agency."

That is particularly true in high-tech industries where the documentation needs to proceed side by side with the development of the product. If that is done, the final documentation can be put together quickly for the simultaneous launch of a product in a number of markets.

In one of the courses he runs, entitled "Writing with translation in mind", he focuses attention on organizing, designing and writing texts to facilitate their translation into other tongues.

Multinationals are keen to get it right

A writer, he believes, needs to produce documentation that translates easily but does not sound bland. Furthermore, the terminology needs to be agreed with the translators to avoid inconsistencies.

There is also a strong design element in documentation that has to be rendered into several languages. A writer needs to be able to fit into the same format

instructions that vary in length according to language. Spanish takes up the most space, in Dr Mason's experience.

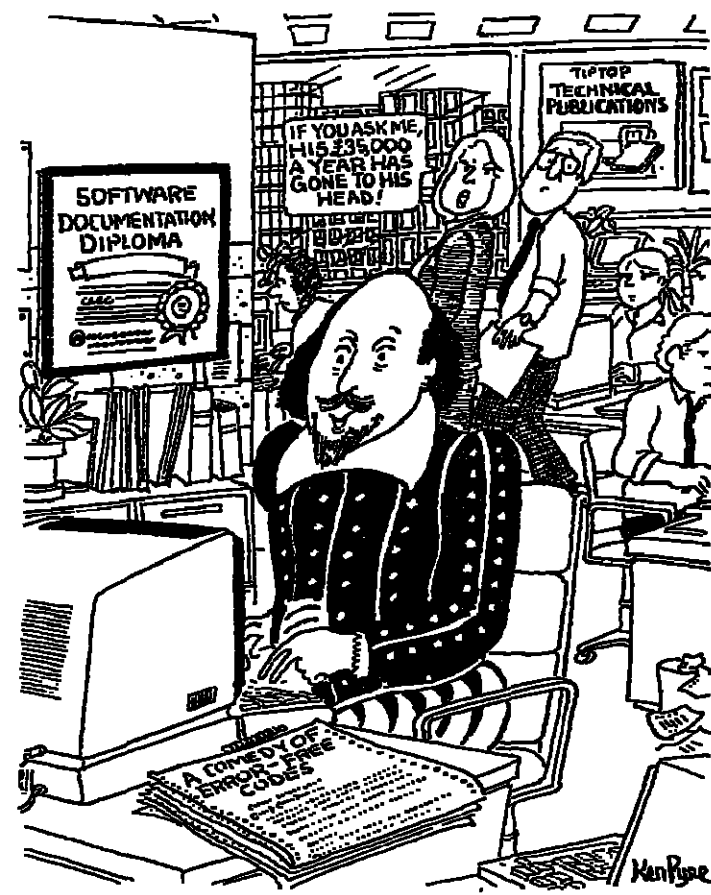
Multinational firms and organizations are particularly keen to get their documentation right. Dr Mason and his colleagues recently ran a course for the senior executives of the European Patent Office who wanted advice on the commissioning of reports to ensure that their documentation was of a good quality, whichever language it was written in or translated into.

The organization has three working languages and precision is vital, especially when staff are writing in their second or third languages.

What about machine translation? Far from being the answer to every documentation problem, it needs to be treated with caution for the time being. "Even if a machine can attain 75 per cent accuracy, that still means that it gets a quarter wrong," Dr Mason says. "Somewhere along the line there has to be some human input which can engineer the product to a specific audience."

That even applies to regional varieties of English. The style of an American manual may sound patronizing in Britain and therefore needs to undergo some modification. "It is commercially important to make products which look and sound as if they originated in that particular country," he says.

Hitherto technical writing and



translation have tended to be looked upon as a peripheral activity, so perhaps it is no wonder that many reports, technical descriptions and manuals have been poorly organized and couched in limp and lifeless language. As competition increases, so does the realization that a product can only be as successful as the documentation that accompanies it.

A growing number of multinational companies too are coming to realize that effective communication is vital if they are to stay in business. Doubtless, with the approach of 1992, people who can turn technical facts into digestible prose will find their services much in demand.

As Dr Mason says: "Words are our business."

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Dewhurst is pointer to Shining Steel's chance

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

It is possible to view last Friday's Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket from different angles when weighing up the Vodafone Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury today.

Looking at it one way, it could be said that neither Opening Verse nor Samson did anything to encourage confidence in their stable companion Shining Steel this afternoon.

From another viewpoint, though, it is possible to argue that by dead-heating for first place at Newmarket, Prince Of Dance pointed to Shining Steel being good enough to win today's group three race.

For Shining Steel was the only one to make a race of it at Newmarket in September when he finished first and second in the Champagne Stakes.

In this instance, I am inclined to follow that line in the belief that both Opening Verse and Samson ran far too badly to be true at Newmarket.

Today's race will also provide valuable lines into the Irish form book in readiness for next season.

For Always Valiant was runner-up to the unbeaten Irish colt Classic Fame in their National Stakes while French Pretender was a fast-finishing

third in the Carier Million. As Classic Fame only just scrambled home on the Curragh on Sunday from Prince Ibrahim, who had only won a race at Doncaster the time before, I will be surprised if Always Valiant can give 5lb to Shining Steel, especially since the Champagne Stakes third Free Sweater was again beaten three lengths in last Sunday's Irish race.

Barry Hills, the trainer of Free Sweater, now relies upon Ecosais Danseur and Rejm in an attempt to repeat Glacial Storm's success of 1987.

In his only race so far at Doncaster, Ecosais Danseur finished a neck behind Grah Alba when they were third and fourth behind Shadai and Magic Gleam while Rejm was behind French Pretender at Phoenix Park.

Glencroft is again lumbered with my map as he endeavours to set a 20th century record for the number of handicaps won in a season. At present his tally stands at nine.

Interestingly he will be carrying exactly the same weight as he did at York 15 days ago when he won that ninth race.

In the meantime he has had an appalling luck at Ascot before going under by just a neck and a short head to Foolish Touch

and Bertie Wooster over six furlongs at Newmarket last Saturday.

It is my contention that Glencroft's present aggressive style of racing is now better suited to five furlongs than it is to six and that he will prove a tough nut to crack this afternoon. On the book he has nothing to fear from Sanditon Palace who finished 5/8 lengths behind him at York.

Albert Henry, a course and distance winner last season and successful at Sandown in the spring, could turn out to be the pick of the outsiders.

On the jumping front, I expect Steve Smith Eccles to land a double at Taunton on Solidasrock (2.30) and Dark Heritage (3.30).

Solidasrock, my selection for the Isefio Iodine Challenge Cup, jumped particularly fluently when he won his first chase at Worcester 12 days ago.

Dark Heritage does not look at all badly treated in the Lansdowne Chemical Handicap Chase following that decisive win at Plumpton last week.

At Uttoxeter, I like the look of The Welder in the Burton Rubber Company Handicap Chase while Starjetic appeals as a sound bet to the Percy Bewick Cup at Hexham.

Owner banned for year

Lisa Smithson, a point-to-point rider and racehorse owner, has been disqualified for a year by the Jockey Club for her racing involvement with the former trainer John Bowles.

Bowles was disqualified for 20 years for his part in a "ringer" scandal at Newton Abbot in 1978.

The Jockey Club's disciplinary committee found that Miss Smithson had been involved in the Bowles case.

She was also found to have been involved in the Bowles case.

Bowles, who was also found to have attended point-to-point meetings, did not attend the

hearing and declined to be legally represented. He was fined £500.

Miss Smithson's disqualification, which takes immediate effect, will forbid her from attending any race meeting and entering any horse to run.

The inquiry was held on Tuesday but the outcome was not announced until yesterday.

John Bowles could be informed first.

Pat Murphy, rider of almost 100 winners on the flat and over jumps, has decided to retire from the saddle. Murphy, aged 30, is assistant trainer to Richard Holder at Bristol.

Chepstow lose jumping finals

Towcester, again the venue for the running of the final of The Times Restricted Series on May 26, will also host the Land Rover Men's Championship on May 16 (Brian Bell writes).

Chepstow is expected to continue their May Bank Holiday fixture to Flat racing and also that of the RMC Group Ladies Championship final. This will be held next year at Warwick on May 13.

The Audi Grand Prix de Chepstow final remains at the Chepstow Hunter Chase evening meeting on May 3.

Futurity duo backed

Sheikh Mohammed's two possible runners in Saturday's William Hill Futurity at Doncaster were both heavily backed with the sponsors yesterday.

Warshan, not a definite contender if the ground is soft, is 2-1 from 5-2 (with a run) while Child Of The Mist has been out from 14-1 to 6-1 after being laid to lose £80,000.

Trained at Manton by Barry Hills, Child Of The Mist finished third to Nashwan at Newbury in August on his latest start.

Warshan, trained by Michael Stoute and the impressive winner of his only race at Yar-

mouth, has also been supported for next year's classics with Ladbrokes and is 16-1 (from 20-1) for the 2,000 Guineas and 14-1 (from 20-1) for the Derby.

Hills has opened a book on the November Handicap, which they sponsor, at Doncaster on November 5 and make Fulke Johnson Houghton's Legendary Dancer 12-1 favourite.

The Blewbury trainer has another leading contender in Buzzbomb, who is quoted at 16-1 along with last year's winner, Swingin' Gunner.

● Tony Ivis landed a 44½-1 double at Redcar yesterday on Almetingo and Not So Shy.

UTTOXETER

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Bright Intervals. 2.50 Wide Receiver. 3.20 Deep Inception. 3.50 Hotplate. 4.20 The Welder. 4.50 Oakgrove. 5.15 Favourite Guest.

Going: good

2.15 GRINDLEY NOVICES HURDLE (Div 1: £885; 2m) (14 runners)

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58 124 CASH CRASH 19 (D) D Brown 5-11-12. M Brown 5-11-12.

59 124 CASH CRASH 19 (D) D Brown 5-11-12. M Brown 5-11-12.

60 124 CASH CRASH 19 (D) D Brown 5-11-12. M Brown 5-11-12.

2.50 BRITISH COAL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,481; 3m) (18)

1 52-1 HOTPLATE 26 (S) D McLean 5-11-12. G McLean 5-11-12.

2 54-0 DOWN FLIGHT 12 (S) T Caldwell 5-11-12. T Caldwell 5-11-12.

3 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

4 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

5 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

6 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

7 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

8 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

9 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

10 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

11 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

12 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

13 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

14 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

15 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

16 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

17 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

18 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

19 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

20 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

21 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

22 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

23 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

24 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

25 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

26 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

27 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

28 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

29 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

30 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

31 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

32 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

33 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

34 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

35 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

36 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

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49 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

50 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

51 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

52 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

53 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

54 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

55 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

56 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

57 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

58 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

59 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

60 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

61 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

62 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

63 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

64 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

4.20 BURTON RUBBER COMPANY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,078; 2m) (5)

1 32-1 THE WELDER 28 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

2 10-3 WALKER STREET 28 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

3 13-7 HARLEY STREET 28 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

4 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

5 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

6 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

7 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

8 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12. D Brown 5-11-12.

9 04-9 PRINCE'S DRIVE 8 (S) D Brown 5-11-12.

[illegible]

